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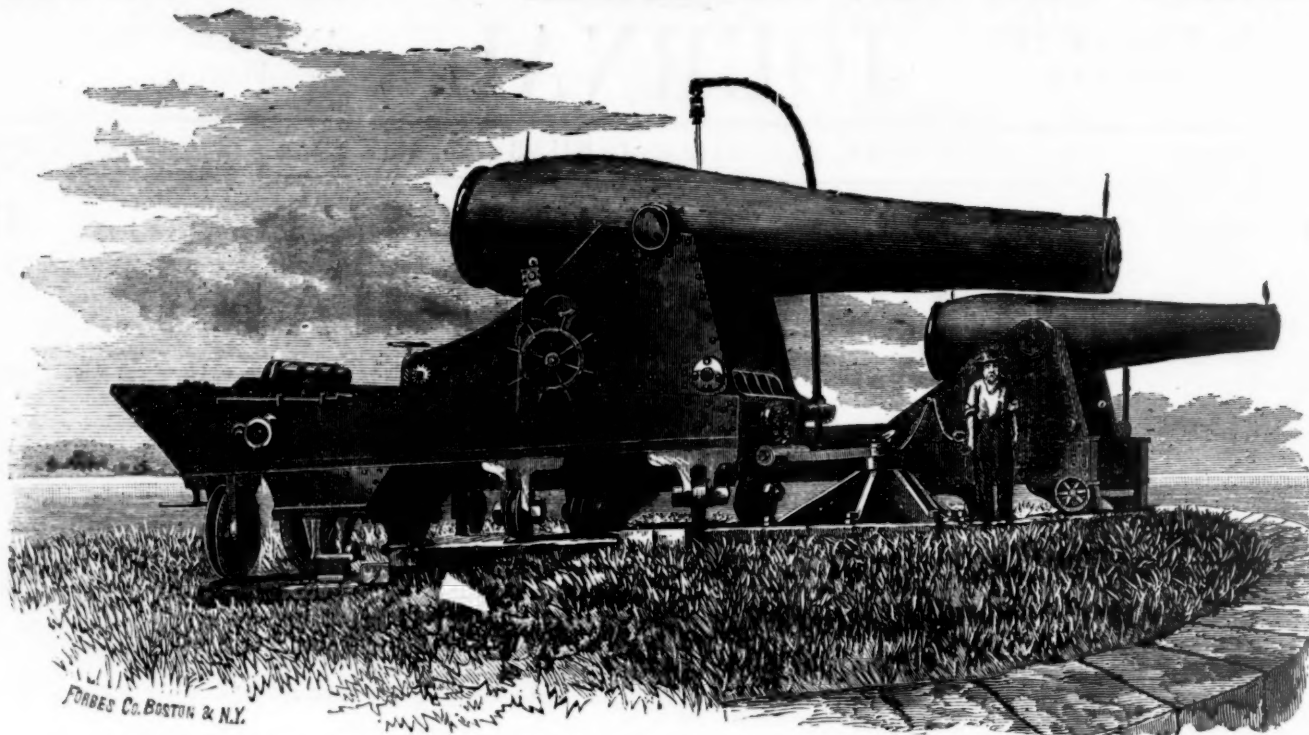
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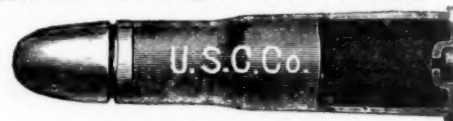
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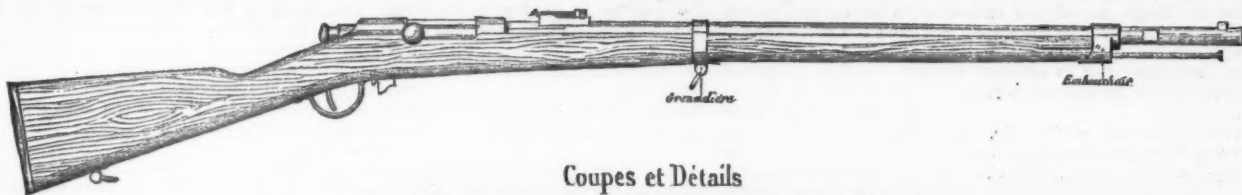
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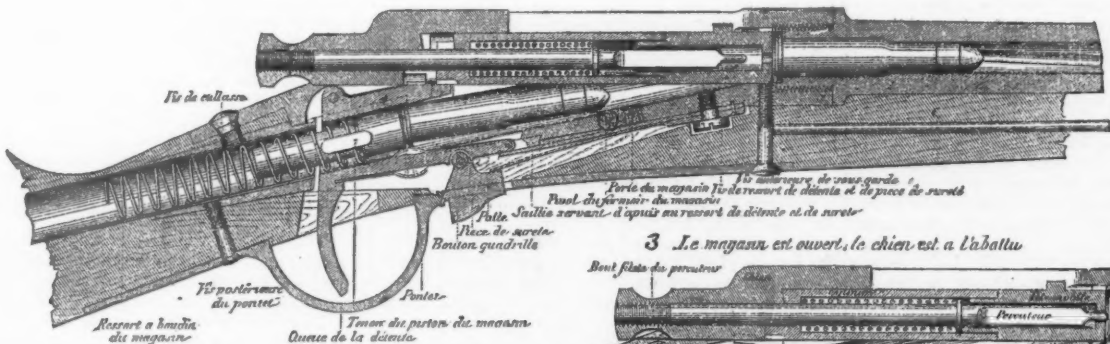
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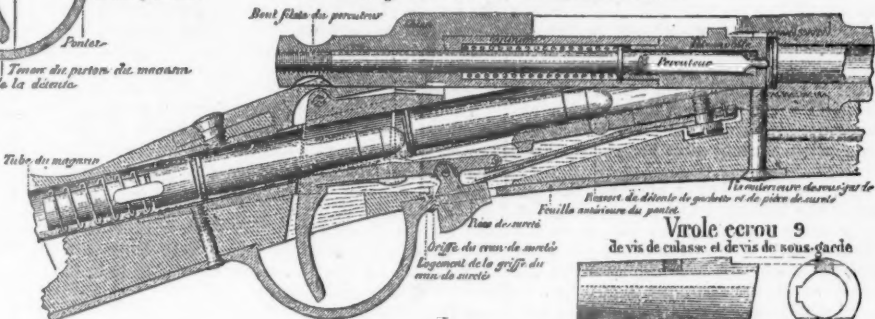


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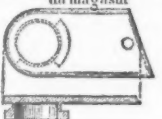
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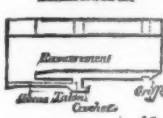
4 Tête mobile



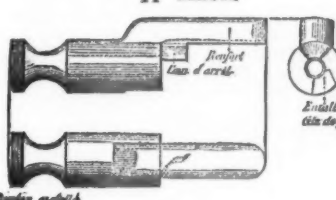
5 Douille à queue du magasin



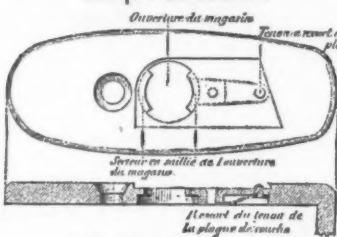
6 Extracteur



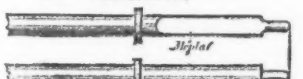
11 Chien



7 Plaque de couche



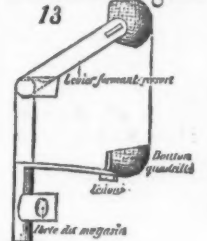
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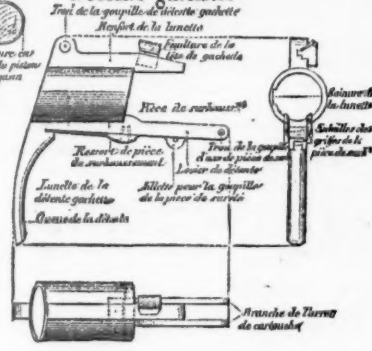
8 Piston du magasin



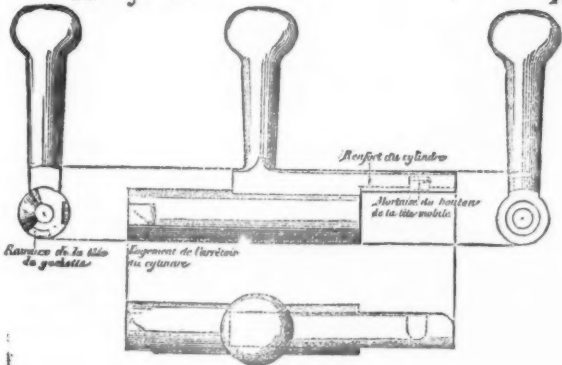
13 Fermoir du magasin



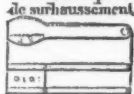
10 Détente gachelle



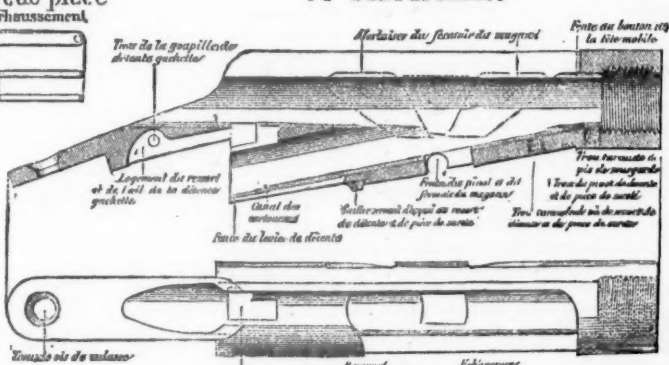
14 Cylindre



15 Ressort de pièce de surhaussement



16 Boite de enlasse



# REPEATING RIFLES.

REPORT OF EXPERIMENTS MADE IN THE FRENCH NAVY WITH THE HOTCHKISS, KROPATCHEK, AND KRAG REPEATING RIFLES.

Translated for THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, by Lieut. T. B. M. Mason, U. S. Navy, from Extraits du Mémorial de l'Artillerie de la Marine. XXXII. Published November, 1878, by a member of the board.

Following will be found a detailed description of each type of arm, the explanation of its working and finally its dismounting and assembling.

In the description the following order will be adopted:

1. The barrel and breech chamber.
2. The movable breech.
3. The trigger apparatus.
4. The magazine and repeating mechanism.
5. The safety piece, pointing apparatus, mountings and fittings.

In order to prevent, as much as possible, in the text a nomenclature always dry and hard to follow, each part has been designated by its name in the plates, and the same has been done with the important factors of each part.

## PLATE I.—THE HOTCHKISS GUN COMPLETE.

1. Piece complete.
2. The magazine is open: the hammer is at full cock.
3. The magazine is open: the hammer is down.
4. Movable head.
5. Tailed socket of the magazine.
6. Extractor.
7. Butt plate.
8. Piston of the magazine.
9. Sleeve for magazine.
10. Tumbler trigger.
11. Hammer.
12. Firing pin.
13. Magazine closer.
14. Cylinder.
15. Raising piece spring.
16. Breech bore.

The working of the arm is divided into three parts:

1. The working in single shot firing;
  1. Opening and closing of magazine;
  2. Loading and discharging magazine.
  3. Repeating fire.
2. The working in repeating.
3. The working of the safety notch.

The dismounting and assembling will be indicated very briefly.

## 1. Barrel and Breech Chamber.

The barrel presents nothing differing from the regulation arm.

The breech box is divided in two parts the seat of the breech plug which has a slot, a slope and a ramp like the rifle, model 1874, and the opening for the cartridges from the magazine. This opening forms the stop of the cartridges in the magazine by the upper part of its rear face; it has on the right side a groove for the tenon of the magazine piston; the end of this groove limits the travel of the piston. In all the length of the breech box we find screw tapped holes, slots, holes, etc., of which the names are indicated in the drawings.

The rear part of the slope of the breech chamber presents a helicoidal ramp, against which butts the cylinder reinforce. This ramp of the slope replaces the ramp of the groove of the stop screw in the rifle, model 1874.

The left side of the breech box has a trapezoidal hollow, with a triangular projection in its middle, in which hangs the lever of the magazine closer. Two mortises, one at the front and the other at the rear of the hollow, receive the little tenon which keeps the

closer in position corresponding to the opening or closing of the magazine.

The front of the breech chamber has two grooves, one on the right for the lodgment of the extractor claw, the other in the prolongation of the upper slot on the left for the reception of the moveable head. The ejection of the cartridge case is effected by a contraction of the breech box from front to rear.

#### 2. Moveable Breech.

The moveable breech, like that of the rifle, model 1874, consists of the cylinder, the moveable head, the extractor, the firing-pin and spring, and the hammer.

**Cylinder.**—The cylinder differs from that of the rifle, model 1874, in its reinforce, in the mortise intended to receive the button of the moveable head, and in the slot with its groove on the right side in which the rabbit of the tumbler takes. This slot and its groove stops 3 mill. from the rear end of cylinder; the extremity of this slot butts against the head of the tumbler, when the moveable breech is drawn to the rear, this tumbler head playing in this movement the part of a stop-screw, preventing the moveable breech from falling. This latter being pushed well into its lodgment, the rabbit of the beak of the tumbler is out of its slot and is free between the cylinder and the hammer; consequently, in this position by pressing on the trigger we can take out the moveable breech.

The cylinder has also on its rear end a lodgment to receive the cylinder-stop when we wish to render the system immovable.

**Moveable Head.**—The moveable head has neither recess or reinforce; it bears the button which unites it to the cylinder; in its rear part is a tenon which engaging in a corresponding slot in the breech box, prevents its turning when the moveable breech is pushed back.

**Extractor.**—The extractor has a claw which rests against the flat of the firing pin and prevents the latter from turning independently from the moveable head. This arrangement allows the firing-pin to be screwed into the hammer by turning by hand the moveable head in which the firing-pin is entered.

**Firing-pin.**—It is only necessary to notice its connection with the hammer, and the flat of which we have just spoken.

**Firing-pin Spring.**—The firing-pin spring is of the same size and the same position as the spring in the rifle, model 1874.

**Hammer.**—The hammer acts as a nut, as in the rifle, model 1874; it is pierced by a tapped hole to receive the threaded end of the firing-pin; the notch of the hammer and its helicoidal ramp act in the movements of opening and closing, in same manner as in the rifle, model 1874.

#### 3. The Trigger Apparatus.

The trigger apparatus comprises the tumbler trigger, which carries the tumbler head and rabbit, the raising piece, of the rim of the cartridge, with its spring, and the trigger spring, which also serves as a spring for the safety catch. This tumbler trigger acts in many ways, as will be seen in working the arm; it is one of the most original parts of this rifle.

#### 4. Magazine and Repeating Mechanism.

The special organs in the repeating mechanism are: the brass magazine tube, with its groove on the right side, capable of holding five cartridges; the piston of the magazine and its tenon, the trap of the magazine in which we notice the lever, forming also a spring, the door which closes the magazine or leaves it open, according to whether, by the aid of the lever, it is raised, or on the contrary, laid in the bottom of the breech box. The pieces of the trigger apparatus which concur in the working of the magazine, are the tumbler trigger, by means of its raising piece, with its spring and loop.

The cartridge stop is formed by the upper face of the cartridge canal of the magazine (breech box). The raising piece forces the rim of first cartridge in the magazine, which is pushed out by the spring of the magazine to press against this upper face.

By pressing on the trigger the loop is lowered, which carries with it the raising piece, lowering it also; at the same time the loop rests on the rim of the cartridge, which slacks the cartridge stop; this is liberated when the loop is in the prolongation of the canal of the magazine and the breech chamber.

#### 5. Safety Catch, Pointing Apparatus, Mounting, Fittings.

Between the guard and the trigger lever, fastened to the latter by a little fore lock, is the safety catch, which has a clutch notch in it; this catches in a stop on the guard.

The rear sight is of the usual form. The mounting presents the same appearance as that of the rifle, model 1874; the butt is a little longer; it is pierced by the canal intended to receive the magazine tube. In the rear of the breech chamber the magazine tube is surrounded by a steel collar, whose object is to furnish a hold for the breech screws and for the rear screw of the guard. As to the fittings, the extreme length of the front guard plate is remarkable, being rendered necessary by the arrangement of the mechanism. This plate has a hole in it for the safety catch.

The butt plate of one of the pieces, No. 1, is as usual; in No. 2 and No. 3 there is a circular hole intended to admit the magazine piston and

spring without rendering the removal of the butt plate necessary. This opening is closed by a plug with two flanges, which engage under similar flanges in the circumference of the orifice in the butt plate. The tail of the plug has a hole in which a little spring tenon on the butt plate engages.

#### SEC. 2. WORKING OF THE HOTCHKISS RIFLE.

##### 1. Working in Single Shot Spring.

The working of the Hotchkiss rifle in firing single shots is similar to that of the rifle, model 1874.

##### 2. Working in Repeating.

**1st. Closing and Opening of the Magazine.**—Closing: Pull back the milled button of the magazine closer, pressing from in out in order to disengage the tenon from the mortise; let go the button when the tenon of the lever engages in the rear mortise. Opening: The reverse of the above.

**2d. Charging and Discharging the Magazine.**—Charging: The breech being open, introduce the five cartridges successively into the mouth of the tube, but first pressing hard enough to overcome the resistance of the raising piece. Discharging: To discharge the magazine without firing, withdraw the breech piece and pull the trigger; the lowering movement of the front part of the loop of the tumbler trigger displaces the cartridge stop and allows the cartridges to come into the breech box, whence they are removed by hand.

The following method may always be used: Push the breech piece forward without turning down the lever press on the trigger, withdraw the breech piece, take out the cartridge from the breech chamber, and so on.

##### 3. Repeating Fire.

The magazine being full and open, a cartridge being placed in the chamber, the breech piece being closed. Press on the trigger to fire: By this movement the head of the tumbler liberates the hammer and the firing pin strikes the cap. At the same time the front part of the tumbler trigger loop is lowered, and with it the raising piece; the loop acting on the rim of the first cartridge forces it to leave the rear upper part of the magazine canal of the breech chamber; this cartridge is released when the loop and the canal of the breech chamber are in line, and pushed by the magazine spring, it presses against the breech piece.

Open the breech: The empty cartridge shell is extracted, and the cartridge from the magazine replaces it. At the same time the following cartridge in the magazine is pushed forward until its rim, rising on the raising piece, presses against the rear part of the cartridge canal of the breech chamber.

Close the breech and press on the trigger as before.

**3d. Action of the Safety Catch.**—To hold fast the trigger and cylinder, press on the milled button of the safety piece, bending the spring of this piece, pulling the button to the rear so as to engage its off-set in the notch of the guard. In this position the tumbler trigger is immovable, and at the same time the cylinder stop has extended its lodgment in the cylinder, so that it also is immovable.

To disengage the arm, press on the button, pushing it forward.

#### SEC. 3. DISMOUNTING AND ASSEMBLING.

##### Dismounting and Mounting the Breech-piece.

**Dismounting.**—Uncock the hammer, disengage the button of the moveable head from the cylinder mortise; unscrew the firing pin, using the moveable head; disengage the firing pin; take out the different pieces; separate the extractor from the moveable head by striking the claw.

**Assembling.**—Attach the extractor to the moveable head by engaging the heel in the hole of the slot, pressing with the thumb on the cover and pushing it forward; put the spiral spring on the shank of the firing pin; introduce the firing pin in the cylinder and hammer, the latter being uncocked; screw the firing pin into the hammer by means of the moveable head.

##### Dismounting and Assembling the Arm.

**Dismounting.**—Take out the plug, extract the magazine, spring and piston; take out the ram rod; move the breech piece to the rear, lever up; press on the trigger and take out the breech piece; take out breech screw; take off the upper, and take out the front screw of the guard plate; take off the lower band and sling clasp; separate the barrel from the stock; take out the trigger and safety piece spring screw; take out the spring; take out the magazine closer; remove the fore-lock of the tumbler trigger and take out the tumbler trigger; take out the screw of the rear guard plate; take off the guard.

**Assembling.**—This is done by reversing the above named operations.

#### THE KROPATSCHEK RIFLE.

(Plate No. 2.)

The three Kropatschek rifles submitted for trial were numbered 1, 2, 3. No. 1 is taken as the type; the differences which exist between Nos. 2 and 3 and No. 1 will be explained.

#### SEC. 1. DESCRIPTION.

##### 1. Barrel and Breech Chambers.

The barrel, which is 77 mill. shorter than that of the model 1874, has near the muzzle a tenon pierced to receive the forelock of the magazine plug and muzzle band.

The upper part of the breech is similar to that of the rifle, model 1874. It is modified in the lower part in order to adapt it to the working of the re-

peating apparatus. To be remarked in the breech chamber, are the sleeve of the magazine tube which is fitted in its rear part with a small projection to limit the motion of the magazine piston, the hopper box, with the breech underneath, and which is fastened to the breech chamber by forcing of its tenons into corresponding grooves in the breech chamber. The nomenclature of the slits, holes and lodgments formed in the breech chamber will be found in the drawings.

##### 2. Moveable Breech Piece.

The moveable breech piece is almost the same as that of the rifle, model 1874; it differs in the following details: Two holes are bored in the cylinder reinforce; they are intended to receive the button of lowering lever of the magazine hopper in its positions of open and closed magazine.

A transverse slit cut in the rear of the cylinder admits of the passage of the raising lever of the hopper; another transverse slit admits of the passage of the ejector. In the moveable head, the groove for the passage of the tumbler head, instead of extending to the hollow of the moveable head, ends in a little ramp situated at 1 cent. from the hollow.

The breech piece being drawn to the rear, this ramp, when the magazine is open, presses against the raising lever of the hopper and raises it.

##### 3. The Trigger Apparatus.

The trigger apparatus consists of a trigger and a spring and of a circular tumbler spring, whose head projects into the interior of the breech chamber.

##### 4. Magazine and Repeating Apparatus.

The organs of the repeating apparatus are: The magazine tube, the spiral spring, the hopper and its spring.

**The Magazine Tube.**—The brass magazine tube contains six cartridges; it is held in the rear by the sleeve of the breech chamber and in front by a plug which is socketed into the tube on whose lugs fit over a tenon on the barrel, to which they are held by a forelock which traverses the lugs and the tenon. The spiral spring acts on a wooden piston which has an iron head, having a projection which, acting against the tube projection, prevents the piston from going too far.

**The Hopper.**—The hopper is fastened to the breech chamber by a screw bolt which acts as a pivot. We notice the beak, which prevents, when the hopper is raised, the cartridge from coming out of the magazine, the tail, with its ejector and raising lever, the heel which acts on the beak of the hopper spring, the lowering or hopper lever. This lowering lever is screwed into the hopper; it can occupy two positions, corresponding to the two holes in the cylinder.

When the breech is closed by pressing down the hand lever, the cylinder acts or does not act on the lowering lever, according as it occupies the position corresponding to open magazine (vertical) or that of closed magazine (lever inclined to the front).

**Hopper Spring.**—This spring, attached to the breech chamber by a screw, serves to hold the hopper in its two positions of lowered or raised by means of the respective positions of the heel of the hopper and the beak of the spring.

##### 5. Safety Notch—Pointing Apparatus—Mounting—Fittings.

The safety notch is the same as that of the rifle, model 1874.

The pointing apparatus presents nothing unusual. The stock is necessarily thicker than that of the rifle, model 1874, because it was necessary to provide for the lodgment of the barrel and of the magazine tube.

The Kropatschek rifle No. 1 has no ramrod tube. The ramrod is composed of three equal sections which can be screwed together, and is intended to be carried in the knapsack. The lower band is held to the wood of the stock by a screw which also serves to bring the lugs together.

The guard, including the trigger guard and the trigger piece, is in one. The front screw of the guard plate, instead of being a wood screw, as in the rifle, model 1874, is screwed into the foot of the breech chamber.

#### SEC. 2. WORKING OF THE KROPATSCHEK RIFLE.

##### 1. Working in Single Shot Firing.

Lower the lowering lever of the hopper until the button comes in contact with the forward edge of the slot of the breech chamber, then manœuvre as with the rifle, model 1874.

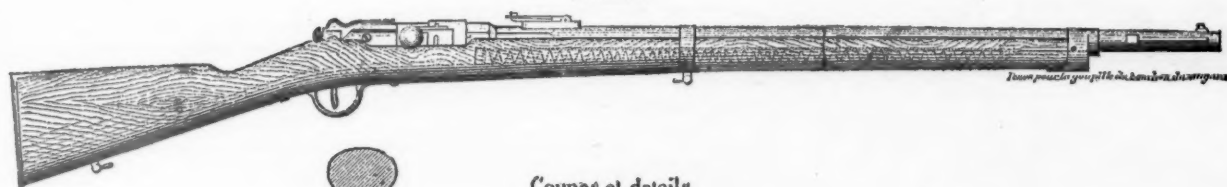
##### 2. Working in Repeating Fire.

**1. Closing and opening of the Magazine.**—Closing: Lower the lowering lever of the hopper, as has just been explained. Opening: Raise the lowering lever of the hopper until the button comes in contact with the rear edge of the slot of the breech chamber.

**2. Charging and Discharging the Magazine.**—Charging the magazine: The breech being open, lower the hopper, and introduce successively, bullet first, the six cartridges into the magazine, pressing each cartridge against the head of the preceding one to overcome the resistance of the spiral spring. Place a seventh cartridge in the hopper. Close the breech. The arm is loaded and ready for firing. If we want to fire single shots, place the lowering lever of the hopper in the position of closed. If, on the contrary, we wish to use repeating fire immediately, we can leave the seventh cartridge in the hopper and place an eighth in the barrel. Discharging the magazine: To dis-

# FUSIL KROPATSCHEK

## 1 Fusil monte Echelle 1/3



## Coupees et details Echelle 1/5

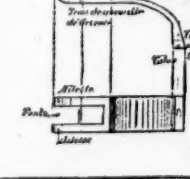
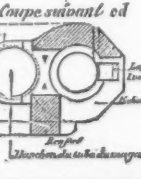
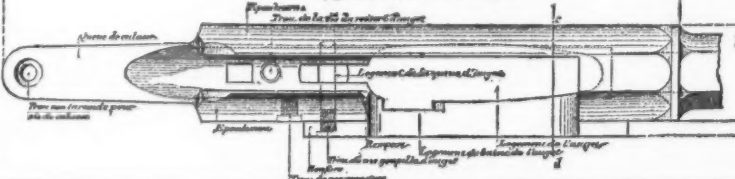
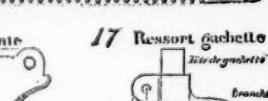
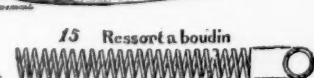
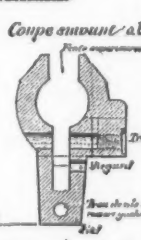
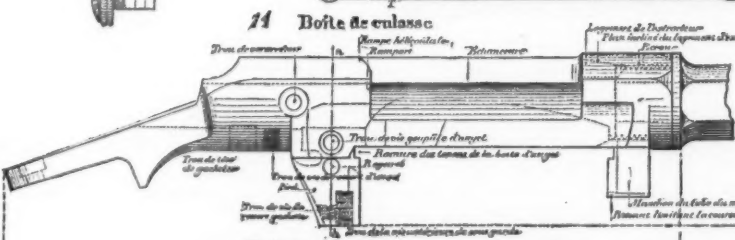
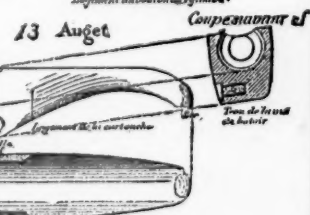
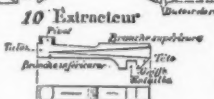
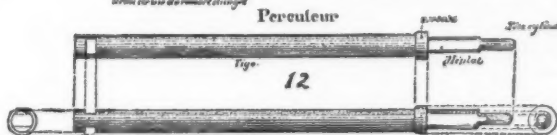
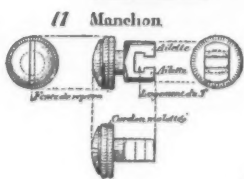
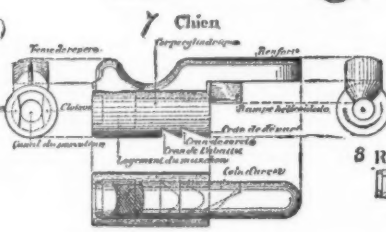
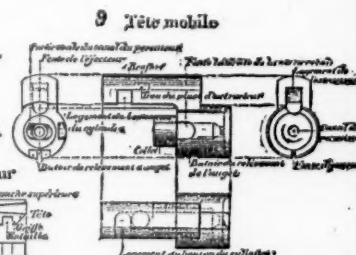
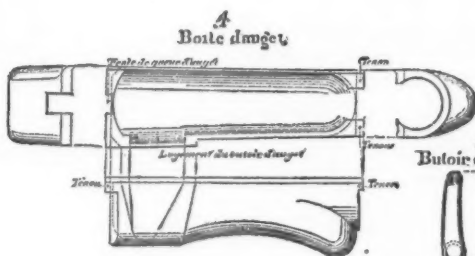
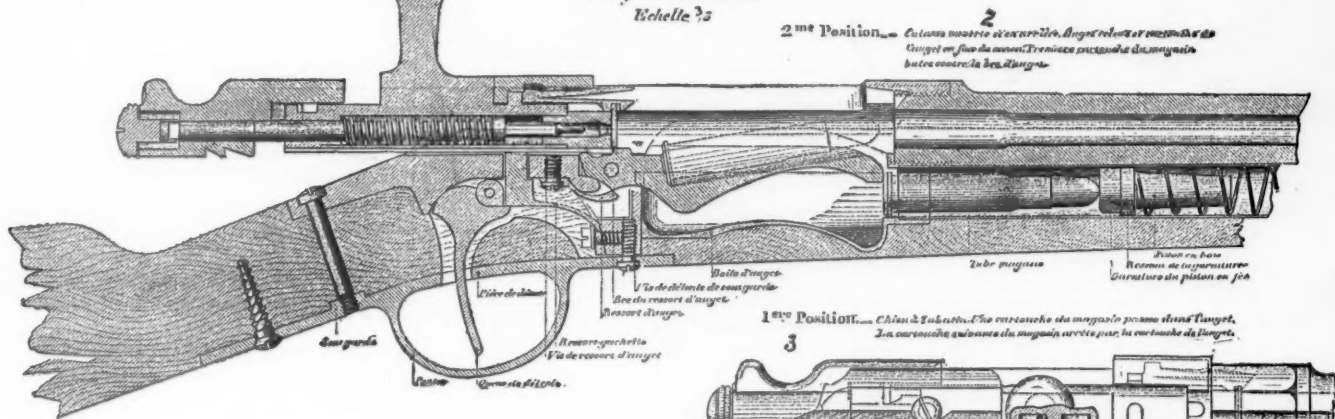


PLATE II.—KROPATSCHEK GUN.

1. Piece complete.
2. 2d position. Breech open and drawn to rear. Hopper opposite barrel. First cartridge of magazine butted against hopper.
3. 1st position. Hammer down. A cartridge from the magazine in the hopper. The vent cartridge stopped by that in hopper.
4. Hopper bore.
5. Hopper lever.
6. Cylinder.
7. Hammer.
8. Hopper spring.
9. Moveable head.
10. Extractor.
11. Button for end of firing pin.
12. Firing pin.
13. Hopper.
14. Breech box.
15. Spiral spring.
16. Trigger.
17. Tumbler spring.

charge the magazine, it is only necessary to proceed as in firing without pulling the trigger; or we can, the hopper being lowered, withdraw each cartridge by hand as it comes into the hopper. Another method is, the hopper being lowered, place the first cartridge a little to the rear, the head out of the hopper, and the bullet resting on the butt of the hopper, thus forming an inclined plane on which all the cartridges will slide successively.

**3. Repeating Fire.**  
The magazine is charged and open, one cartridge is in the chambers, the breech piece is closed. Press on the trigger to fire. In this movement the head of the tumbler loosens the hammer and the firing pin strikes the cap. Open the breech and draw the breech piece

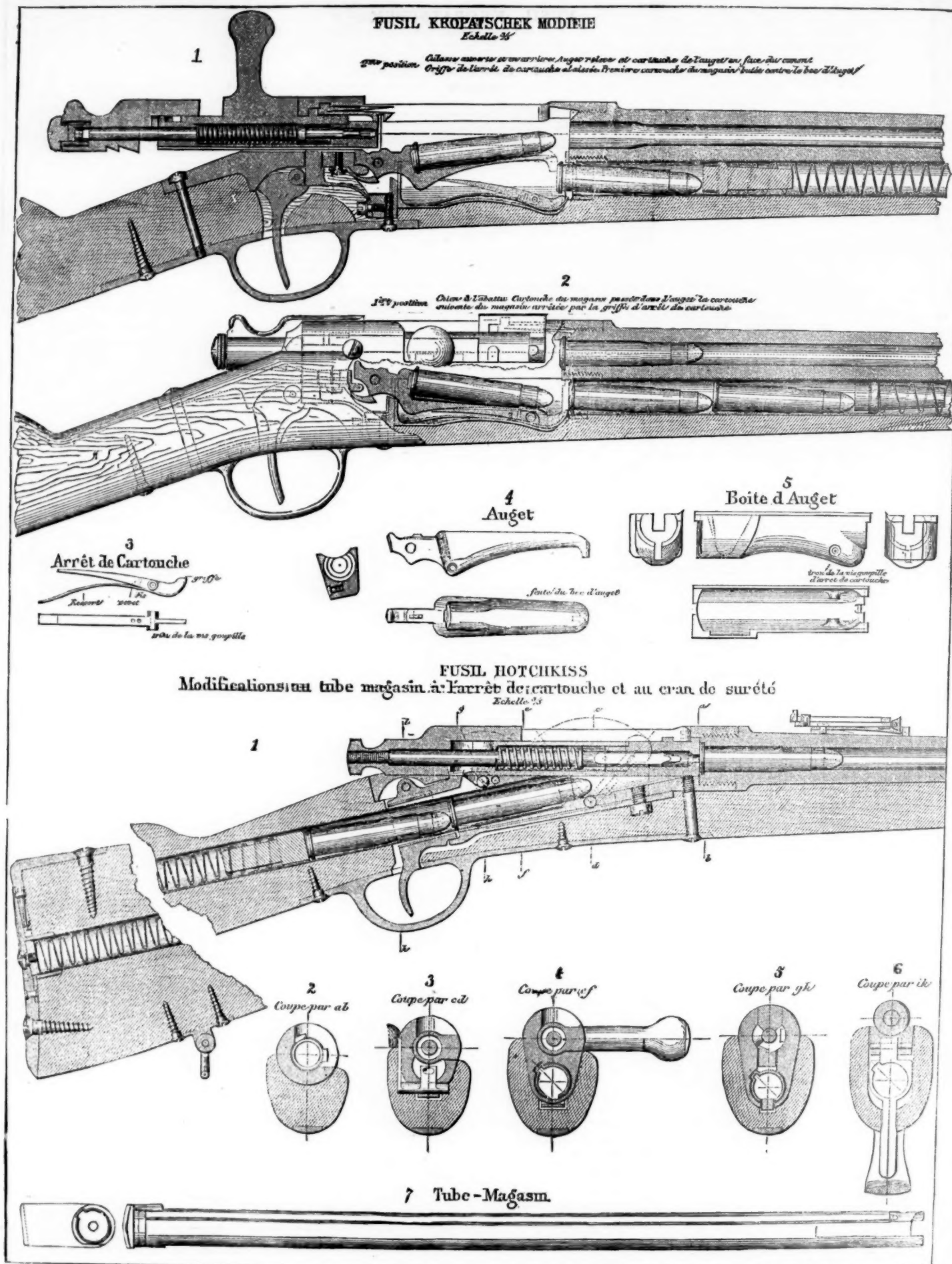
quickly to the rear. The empty shell is extracted and ejected by being struck by the head of the ejector; then the ramp of the moveable head strikes the raising lever of the hopper; the hopper rises and places the cartridge which it holds in the prolongation of the chamber. Close the breech and turn down the handle. The lowering lever of the hopper being vertical, the button takes first in the corresponding hole of the cylinder (rear hole); then forces the hopper to descend, opening the mouth of the magazine; the first cartridge of the magazine is forced into the hopper.

**Working of the Safety Notch.**—The working of the safety notch is the same as in the rifle, model 1874.

**SEC. 3. DISMOUNTING AND ASSEMBLING.**  
1. Dismounting and assembling the moveable breech-piece.

## EXPERIENCES SUR LES FUSILS A REPETITION

PLANCHE 4



## PLATE III.—MODIFIED KROPATSCHEK.

- 2d position. Breech open and to rear. Hopper raised and cartridge opposite barrel. Claw of cartridge stop lowered. First cartridge in magazine butted against beak of hopper.
- 1st position—Hammer down, cartridge from magazine in hopper, the next one in magazine stopped by the claw of the cartridge stop.
- Cartridge stop.
- Hopper.
- Hopper bore.

## PLATE III.—HOTCHKISS RIFLE.

- Modified magazine tube, cartridge stop and safety notch.
- 3, 4, 5, 6. Sections
- Magazine tube

This is done as with the rifle, model 1874.

2. *Dismounting and assembling the arm.*  
*Dismounting*—Remove the moveable breech piece; remove the screw bolt of the hopper, remove the hopper, continue as with the rifle, model 1874. The barrel and the magazine tube being separated from the mounting, remove the forelock which holds the plug band to the tenon of the barrel, take off the band, take out the spiral spring and the piston. Take the tube out of the sleeve.

*Assembling*.—Reverse the operations.  
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE KROPATSCHEK RIFLE NOS. 2 AND 3 AND THE RIFLE NO. 1.

The rifle No. 2 has a ramrod similar to that of

the rifle, model 1874, except that it is a little shorter. The rifles Nos. 2 and 3 have tenons and directors for the sword bayonet; the barrels are of the same length as that of the rifle, model 1874.

MODIFICATIONS ADOPTED IN THE KROPATSCHEK RIFLE DURING THE COURSE OF THE TRIALS.  
(Plate 4.)

*Addition of a cartridge stop.*  
The modification adopted consisted in the addition of a cartridge stop. This stop consists of a lever, on which a spring is fastened by means of a screw, and of a pivot, and which moves about an axis parallel to the axis of the hopper. It is mounted on a screw bolt which traverses the sides of the hopper

box. One of the extremities of the spring rests on the bottom of the hopper box; the other extremity, which ends in a claw, is applied under the arm of the stop lever. The beak of the hopper is split for the passage of the forward end of the stop lever.

When the spring is free, the lever occupies such a position as prevents the cartridge stop from projecting in the sleeve of the breech chamber, and leaves the passage clear for the cartridges in the magazine. But the hopper, in descending, exerts a pressure on the rear arm of the lever of the stop; the claw of the spring rises and projects in the sleeve opposing the coming out of the next cartridge.

It is easy to comprehend that each time that the hopper is raised by pulling the breech piece sharply to the rear, the claw of the cartridge stop will be lowered, the first cartridge in the magazine will pass over the stop, and will butt against the beak of the hopper.

If, then, we lower the hopper by closing the breech, the claw of the stop will rise, the first cartridge that has already passed the stop will place itself in the hopper.

From the addition of this stop there is a little change in the method of charging and discharging the magazine.

As to the charging it can be done in the manner already described, or else push each cartridge with the finger until it has passed the stop.

For discharging we can only act as in firing, care being taken not to touch the trigger.

Plate No. 4 shows the working of the Kropatschek furnished with a cartridge stop.

The conclusion of the report, which was accidentally omitted last week, is as follows:

June 28th the Minister approved these conclusions,

#### Principal Facts Concerning the Experimental Rifle and the Rifle Model, 1874

Arm. (The calibre of all the arms is the same.) 11 Millimeters.	Hotchkiss.			Kropatschek.			Krag.	Mod.
	Nos. 1, 2, 3.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5, 6.		
Total length of arm (met).....	1,330	1,223	1,300	1,300	1,265	1,310		
Total length of barrel (met).....	820	0,743	0,820	0,820	0,820	0,820		
Weight of arm not loaded and without bayonet (kil.).....	4,000	4,590	4,795	4,620	4,270	*4,200		
Number of cartridges in the arm.....	6 { 5 in the magazine. 1 in the chamber.	8 { 6 in magazine. 1 in hopper. 1 in chamber.			9 { 8 in the magazine. 1 in the chamber.			1
Weight of arm loaded, magazine full, without bayonet (kil.).....	4,953	4,940	5,145	4,970	4,594	4,244		
Distance of the Magazine full.....	0,522	0,510	0,537	0,542	0,544	"		
centre of gravity (met.)								
Time required } by soldiers (min.).....	0,534	0,500	0,542	0,537	0,536	0,547		
to dismount. } by armorers (min.).....	2' 00"	2' 05"	1' 35"	1' 15"	1' 15"	1' 20"		
Time required } by soldiers (min.).....	1' 40"	1' 35"	3' 10"	3' 10"	3' 5"	1' 25"		
to assemble. } by armorers (min.).....	2' 15"	2' 10"	2' 10"	2' 10"	2' 0"	1' 5"		

\* The regulation weight of the rifle model 1874 is often exceeded in practice. The rifle which was used as a model during the trials weighed 4 k. 388.

#### DANGER TO THE REPUBLIC.

A CIRCULAR we have just received is headed, "Burnside's Army Bill Anti-Republican and Subversive of the principles of Civil Liberty," and is as follows:

By a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Secretary of War is, for the purpose of expenditures of the public moneys, a Civil Officer, and the acts of his agents are his acts; therefore civil functions. This is in conformity to the principle which underlies our form of Government, i. e., the sword and purse must not be united in the same person. The President is Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, but his secretaries having the disbursement of moneys, are Civil Officers for that purpose. Now, if the power of the Secretary of War over the disbursement of funds, and the agents for such disbursements, is transferred to the General of the Army and his military subordinates, or even if this power is divided between the Secretary of War and the general, it is a foregone conclusion that the might of the sword will overcome the right of the purse, and the military predominate over the civil functions in the Army.

In time of disturbance an ambitious commander might produce startling results before the civil power could intervene. Suppose an ambitious commander on the Mexican border should collide with a Mexican commander to revolutionize, he could control the Ordnance officer to furnish arms and munitions; the Quartermaster to furnish transportation, etc.; the Commissary to furnish subsistence, and the other Branches of the Staff to furnish means to the end; he has but to keep the General of the Army deceived as to his designs, and all channels of communication to the Secretary of War and the President are closed for the time necessary to accomplish the purpose or involve the State.

Had General Twigg possessed such control over the disbursing officers and the monies and supplies, for which they were responsible in Texas for a few months before the Rebellion, how much more impetus would have been given to the war?

It is not a sufficient guarantee that our officers are now all loyal; the principles which underlie government must be fixed, and not subject to accidents or the changes in the minds of men. The personnel of the Army should be under the control of the Military Commanders; the material, under the control of civil functionaries. The military and civil functions of officers defined. The civil should be superior to the military at the head, and the checks of civil law should be held over the disbursing officers in charge of public material. A supervisory power exercised by the Military Commander over the distribution of material, and the agents of such distribution to the Army, subject to the Articles of War and regulations of the War Department.

GERMANY has just launched her first home-made ironclad—the *Chamæleon*. This is a vessel of 1,000 tons displacement, with eight-inch armor, a draught of ten feet when fully equipped, engines of 700 indicated horse-power, and a thirty-five ton gun, the projectile from which will penetrate sixteen inches of iron. This small vessel carries a more formidable weapon than does any English man-of-war in commission, the penetration of the thirty-eight-ton guns of the *Thunderer* and *Devastation* being only fourteen inches.

and ordered for the use of the fleet the modified Kropatschek system, that is to say, with the addition of the cartridge stop. The models experimented with were modified, in some details, the most important of which are:

1. A magazine to hold seven instead of six cartridges, which will make, with the one in the hopper and the one in the barrel, nine rounds to the arm.
2. Modifications to prevent the blast from reaching the eyes of the person firing.
3. Omission of the ram rod.
4. Tenon for the sword bayonet to be placed on the muzzle band.
5. Sliding sight, without notches, as is already fitted to several arms.

To conclude, the French Navy has since 1867 acknowledged without hesitation the useful effects which could be derived from the use of a repeating arm. On the 15th of March, 1877, when it became necessary to change its armament, composed until then of rifles, model 1866, the trial of several types of repeaters was determined, all using the regulation metallic cartridge, all having the same trajectory and accuracy as the rifle, model 1874, being susceptible, at will, of single shot or repeating fire. April 3d, 1878, these experiments, long and minute, were terminated, and June 30th, according to the unanimous advice of the Council of Works, advice which was given according to the conclusions of the board of experiments at Cherbourg, the Minister decided upon the introduction, for general use, into the Navy, of the Kropatschek repeating rifle with some modification of details.

France will be the first great military power whose sailors will be armed with repeating rifles, and it is easily foreseen that its example will soon be followed by all.

## THE ARMY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'dr-in-Chief.  
George W. McCrary, Secretary of War.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.  
Washington, D. C. Brig.-Gen. E. D. Townsend, Adj.-General.

*Limits of Staff Officers' Authority.*—1. Hereafter requisitions, estimates, returns and, generally, all papers requiring the action of the Commanding General, will be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department.

2. No other officers than the Adjutant-General of the Department and the Aide-de-Camp are authorized to give orders in the name of the Department Commander.

3. Commanding officers will alone be held responsible for the condition, in all respects, of their posts—the discipline and instruction of its garrison—the care, and condition for service, of all stores and equipments, and that timely requisitions for necessary supplies are made; officers of staff departments at posts, are their assistants, subject entirely to their orders, and directly responsible to them, for the faithful and efficient performance of all their duties.

Chiefs of staff departments at Department Headquarters may correspond with their subordinates at posts, through commanding officers, and acquaint themselves fully with the condition and wants of their departments, and call for such reports and returns as may be necessary for that purpose; but such orders as it may be necessary to give them, affecting their duties at their posts, or the management and disposition of public property there, will be given from the office of the Assistant Adjutant General at Department Headquarters, through their commanding officers (G. O. 2, Jan. 15 D. S.)

*Fuel.*—Upon a request of the Post Treasurer, Camp McDermit, Nev., for authority to purchase wood for use in post bakery, at the rate of \$3 per cord, as set forth in G. O. 40, c. a., from the A.-G. O., the Adjutant-General of the Army decides, that neither under the terms of the law nor the order cited, can wood be sold by the Quartermaster's Department at the rate named, except as provided for the actual use of officers only (Circular 6, Dec. 26, D. C.)

*Newspapers.*—Referring to communication from the Post Treasurer of 23d ultimo, asking whether purchase of, or subscription to, newspapers and periodicals is a legitimate expenditure from post fund, I am directed by the Adjutant-General to state, expenditures for the purpose indicated should not be charged against the post fund, as newspapers and periodicals are supplied by the Q. M. Department, upon proper requisition (Letter, A.-G. O., W. D., Jan. 4.)

#### STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

Major Chas. J. Sprague, P. D., member, and Major Thomas F. Barr, J.-A., Judge-Advocate G. C.-M. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 17 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

Maj. Joseph R. Gibson, Surg., is relieved from duty as member of G. C.-M. convened at Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., by par. 1, S. O. 121, series of 1878, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. P.)

Major C. A. Reynolds, Q. M. Dept., and A. Surg. P. Middleton, M. D., members G. C.-M. Fort Porter, N. Y., Jan. 21 (S. O. 11, Jan. 17, D. E.)

Maj. John P. Hawkins, C. S., will repair to Chicago, Ill., on public business (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. P.)

Major Wm. Myers, Q. M., is relieved from duty in the Mil. Div. of the Pacific, and will report, as soon as his health will permit, to the Lieut.-General, commanding Mil. Div. of the Missouri, for duty (S. O., Jan. 20, W. D.)

Captain A. J. McGonnigle, A. Q. M., New Orleans, La., will proceed thence to Mobile, Ala., on business connected with the National Cemetery at that place (S. O. 8, Jan. 14, D. S.)

1st Lieut. J. Y. Porter, member G. C.-M. Key West Bks, Fla., Jan. 28 (S. O. 13, Jan. 20, D. S.)

So much of S. O. 123, June 6, 1878, from this office, as directs 1st Lieut. F. V. Greene, C. E., to report to the Chief of Engineers, is so amended as to direct him to first complete the duties on which he is now engaged (S. O., Jan. 21, W. D.)

A. A. Surg. G. S. Oldmixon is relieved from duty at Camp Apache, A. T., and will report to the C. O. Camp Verde, A. T., for duty (S. O. 3, Jan. 4, D. A.)

Asst. Surgeon John Brooke, M. D., will proceed to Washington, D. C., on public business (S. O. 12, Jan. 20, D. S.)

The telegraphic instructions of Jan. 3, 1879, from these Hdqrs, to A. A. Surg. C. A. Sewall, directing him to proceed at once to Ojo Caliente, N. M., for temporary duty with Co. I, 9th Cavalry, and detachment of Indian scouts, taking a three months' supply of medicines, etc., with him from the post of Fort Bliss, are confirmed (S. O. 2, Jan. 6, D. N. M.)

1st Lieut. E. H. Ruffner, C. E., will proceed hence to Chicago, Ill., and thence to Washington, D. C., on public business (S. O. 9, Jan. 15, D. M.)

Asst. Surg. R. L. Rosson, will report to the C. O., Camp Apache, A. T., for duty at that post (S. O. 149, Dec. 23, D. A.)

Par. 5, S. O. 3, c. s., from these Hdqrs, is amended to read: 1st Lieut. Richards Barnett, Asst. Surg., is assigned to duty, temporarily, at these Hdqrs, to date from the 2d inst. (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. P.)

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Par. 7, S. O. 176, Aug. 15, 1878, from this office, granting leave of absence for one year to Surg. B. J. D. Irwin, is amended to grant said leave on Surgeon's cert. (S. O., Jan. 20, W. D.)

Two months, on account of sickness, Post Chaplain Toussaint Mesplé, to take effect Jan. 1, 1879 (S. O., Jan. 21, W. D.)

Four months, Asst. Surg. Timothy E. Wilcox (S. O., Jan. 20, W. D.)

Asst. Surg. E. A. Koerper, extended three months (S. O., Jan. 15, W. D.)

#### PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

The troops in this Dept. will be paid to include the

THE SCHURZ-SHERIDAN CONTROVERSY.—Lieutenant-General Sheridan is in receipt of the following letter from General Sherman:

WASHINGTON, January 17.

GENERAL: I have, for the first time, had to-day referred to me the communication of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Schurz, of January 6, with enclosure with an endorsement from the War Department, "No action," and accordingly I do not send it to you. This communication was published in New York and Washington about the day of its date, and has doubtless been seen by you, and I make the explanation that you may not expect an official copy unless you specially call for it. My own judgment is that your answer to a former communication by the Honorable Secretary of the Interior was all-sufficient and perfectly satisfactory to me, to whom it was addressed, and to the Secretary of War, to whom I referred it, and that Mr. Schurz's rejoinder was addressed to the public, and is in no manner calculated to reconcile conflicting opinions, to improve the condition of the Indians or make the instrumentality of the Army in Indian management more harmonious and effective.

For these reasons I infer from a conversation with the Honorable Secretary of War, Mr. McCrary, that his opinion is—in which I fully concur—that the controversy, as such, should end; and therefore I shall instruct the Adjutant-General to place this communication of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior on file. With great respect, yours truly,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

CONGRESS AND THE FRONTIER.—The Governor of Nebraska in his annual message says:

"Congress has curtailed the military branch of the nation, until it is no longer capable of guarding the large expanse of territory exposed to the incursions of marauding bands of Indians. Within the year just closed, citizens of Kansas were murdered by the Cheyenne Indians almost upon our border, and many of our own citizens suffered heavily from loss of stock run off in their recent raid. These Indians are the wards of the nation and our people are taxed for their support. Notwithstanding this they are permitted to abandon their reservations and prey upon the settlers. If the General Government has failed to protect our people from the blows of savages, it becomes our duty to devise means for their protection. The State authorities have furnished our frontier settlements with arms and ammunition, so far as the limited supply at their command would permit. The settlements are far apart, and depredations are liable to be committed and life endangered before the people can unite for defence.

"I believe that at least partial relief from these outrages may be found in the enactment and enforcement of an efficient militia law; one that will equip the frontiersmen and organize them into companies; confer authority upon them to protect their homes and families, and amply reward them for their services. I may in this connection express the belief that a large majority of the people of the West regard the contemplated transfer of the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department with much favor. The National Military Academy is graduating a surplus of officers for our skeleton Army and a number of these might be detailed as Indian agents, thereby saving to the people the large amounts paid out to civilians for salaries. Were the Indians placed under the direct control of the military, their opportunities for escaping from their reservations would be lessened, and the border settlements be made more secure from their depredations. The proverbial integrity of the Army officer would guarantee a service characterized by efficiency, honesty, and economy."

muster of Dec. 31, as follows: At Camp McDowell and Verde, and Fort Whipple, A. T., by Major P. P. G. Hall, P. D.; at Camp Mojave, A. T., and Fort Yuma and San Diego, Bks. Cal., by Major R. H. Towler, P. D.; at Camp Apache, Bowie, Grant, Thomas, Lowell, Huachuca, and troops in the field in southern Arizona, by Major C. C. Sniffin, P. D. (S. O. 150, Dec. 26, D. A.)

The following assignment of Paymasters for payment of troops, to include the muster of Dec. 31, is made: Major Joseph H. Eaton, Chief Paymaster, to pay at Fort Vancouver, Vancouver Arsenal, Fort Canby, Wash. T., and Fort Stevens, Ore.; Major Wm. M. Maynard, to pay at Fort Colville, Wash. T., Camp Coeur d'Alene, Fort Lapwai, and Camp Howard, Idaho T., and at Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.—paying at those posts in the order named (S. O. 153, Dec. 28, D. C.)

The following named officers will proceed to pay the troops, at the posts and stations hereinafter enumerated, for the months of November and December, 1878: Major Rodney Smith, P. D., at Camp Bidwell, Cal.; and Camps Halleck and McDermitt, Nev.; Major J. B. M. Potter, P. D., at Presidio of San Francisco, Fort Point and Alcatraz Island, Cal., and Fort Klamath, Ore.; Major James R. Roche, P. D., at Point San José, Angel Island, Benicia Bks, Benicia Arsenal, and Camp Gaston, Cal. (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, M. D. P.)

#### NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Hosp. Steward Patrick Coyne, (McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga.) will proceed to Mount Vernon Bks, Ala., for temporary duty at that post (S. O. 9, Jan. 15, D. S.)

Hosp. Steward William Kelly is relieved from duty at the Leavenworth Military Prison, and will report to Asst. Surg. Victor Biart, for duty with the troops under orders for the new cantonment in the Indian Territory (S. O. 7, Jan. 13, D. M.)

Hosp. Steward David Robertson is relieved from duty at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., and assigned to duty as dispensing steward under the Attending Surgeon at Division and Dept. Hdqrs. In addition to his other duties Hosp. Steward Robertson will take charge of the records pertaining to the late General Hospital at Governor's Island (S. O. 9, Jan. 15, D. E.)

So much of par. 2, of Dept. S. O. 9, c. s., as relates to Hosp. Steward Patrick Coyne, is revoked. Hosp. Steward George W. Weed (McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga.) will proceed to Mount Vernon Bks, Ala., for temporary duty at that post (S. O. 13, Jan. 20, D. S.)

#### THE LINE.

**1ST CAVALRY.** Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters, and B. D. F. K. M. Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.; A. E. Camp Harney, Ore.; C. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, Idaho T.; I. Camp Halleck, Nev.; H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; L. Fort Klamath, Ore.

*Leave Extended.*—2d Lieut. John Pitcher, one month (S. O., Jan. 18, W. D.)

**3RD CAVALRY.** Col. Wash. L. Elliott.—Headquarters, and A. B. D. F. Fort Laramie, Wy. T.; I. Fort Fetterman, Wy. T.; C. H. Fort Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; K. M. Fort Sidney, Neb.; E. Fort Fred. Steele, Wy. T.; L. Fort McPherson, Neb.

*Leave Extended.*—Major Caleb H. Carlton, Sidney Bks, Neb., one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 17, M. D. M.)

*In Memoriam.*—At a special meeting of the Columbus Literary Association of Co. H, 31 U. S. Cavalry, held in their room at Camp Robinson, Neb., Jan. 15, 1879, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased the Divine Ruler of the universe to remove from our midst by death, at the hand of the Cheyenne Indians, on the 10th day of January, 1879, our fellow member, Wm. W. Everett; and

Resolved, In the death of our fellow member, the association has lost one of its most active members and the United States a good and faithful soldier; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we tender as associates our most heartfelt sympathies to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

Resolved, That the room of the association be draped in mourning for the space of thirty days; that a copy of these resolutions be sent the relatives of the deceased, and be printed in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Boston Herald, and be spread upon the minutes of the association.

GEORGE W. BURCH, C. B. LOSIER, JAMES REILEY,  
Committee on Resolutions.

**4TH CAVALRY.** Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters, and A. D. K. L. M. Fort Clark, Tex.; G. H. Fort Reno, Ind. T.; C. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; I. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; B. P. Fort Elliott, Tex.; E. Fort Duncan, Tex.

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. J. H. Dorst, Adj. is detailed as J. A. of G. C. M. instituted at Fort Clark, Tex., by par. 3, S. O. 4, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 8, Jan. 11, D. T.)

*Leave Extended.*—1st Lieut. Wentz C. Miller, Fort Clark, Tex., one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 17, M. D. M.)

*Lieut. Warrington.*—Under the heading of 24th Infantry we publish some account of the funeral services of this officer, which were joined with those of Lieut. Dodd, of the 24th. Lieut. Warrington was a descendant of the Warringtons of Virginia, celebrated in Thackeray's "Virginians." He was appointed to the Army from the District of Columbia as 2d Lieutenant June 18, 1867, and promoted to 1st Lieutenant July 31, 1869.

**5TH CAVALRY.** Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters and A. B. D. F. I. M. Fort D. A. Russell, Wy. T.; C. E. K. Fort McKinney, Wy. T.; H. Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. L. Fort Washakie, Wy. T.

*Reno Court.*—Capt. J. Scott Payne is ordered to Chicago, to report as a witness to the President of the Court of Inquiry now in session there in case of Major Reno.

**6TH CAVALRY.** Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and M. C. P. Lowell, A. T.; A. G. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. Camp Huachuca, A. T.; C. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; E. D. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. K. Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McDowell, A. T.; F. Camp Thomas, A. T.

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. T. A. Touey, A. D. C. and Acting Engr. Officer, will proceed, at once, to Camp Verde, A. T., and such other points as may be necessary, on public business connected with the survey of the road over the Mogollon Mountains (S. O. 151, Dec. 27, D. A.)

2d Lieut. G. L. Scott will proceed to Camp Bowie, A. T., on public business (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. A.)

**7TH CAVALRY.** Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and A. C. G. H. I. L. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; F. K. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. D. Fort Yates, D. T.; E. M. Fort Meade, D. T.

*Leave of Absence.*—Ten days, 2d Lieut. James F. Bell, Fort A. Lincoln, D. T. (S. O. 6, Jan. 16, D. D.)

*Leave Extended.*—1st Lieut. Ernest A. Garlington, Regt. Adj., Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., ten days (S. O. 6, Jan. 16, D. D.)

**8TH CAVALRY.** Col. J. I. Gregg.—Headquarters and G. H. Fort Ringgold, Texas; C. D. I. L. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. B. K. M. Fort Clark, Tex.; E. San Diego, Tex.; F. Fort McIntosh.

*Detached Service.*—1st Lieut. J. M. Ropes, member, G. C. M. Fort Clark, Tex., instituted by par. 3, S. O. 4, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 8, Jan. 11, D. T.)

Major D. R. Clendenin and 1st Lieut. R. A. Williams, members, G. C. M. Fort Ringgold, Tex., Jan. 22 (S. O. 9, Jan. 13, D. T.)

*Furlough.*—A furlough for four months, with permission to go beyond the sea, is granted Sergt. John R. P. Foster, Co. D, 8th Cav., to take effect after his re-enlistment (S. O. 7, Jan. 10, D. T.)

**9TH CAVALRY.** Col. Edward Hatch.—Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.; L. Fort Bliss, Tex.; K. Fort Garland, C. T.; F. H. M. Fort Stanton, N. M.; A. B. C. G. Fort Bayard, N. M.; K. Fort Union, N. M.; I. Ojo Caliente, N. M.; D. Camp Lewis, Colo.

*In the field.*

*Detached Service.*—1st Lieut. Martin B. Hughes will report to the Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service to conduct a detachment of recruits to the 9th Cav. On the completion of this duty he will join his company (S. O., Jan. 18, W. D.)

*To Join.*—Lieut. G. Valois is relieved as A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S. at Camp Lewis, Colo., and will join his Co. at Fort Garland, Colo. (S. O. 2, Jan. 6, D. N. M.)

**10TH CAVALRY.** Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—Headquarters and D. P. M. Fort Concho, Tex.; A. G. I. Fort Sill, I. T.; C. H. K. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. L. Fort Stockton, Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.

*Detached Service.*—Major N. B. McLaughlin, member, G. C. M. instituted by par. 2, S. O. 245, series of 1878, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 7, Jan. 10, D. T.)

**11TH ARTILLERY.** Col. Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and B. E. P. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; I. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; L. Fort Independence, Mass.; G. Ft. Monroe, Va.; A. D. Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.

*Leave Extended.*—Capt. Frank E. Taylor, ten days (S. O. 8, Jan. 14, D. E.)

**2ND ARTILLERY.**—Colonel William F. Barry.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort McHenry, Md.; C. Fort Johnston, N. C.; E. F. G. San Antonio, Tex.; K. Ft. Monroe, Va.; B. H. Washington, D. C.; I. Ft. Ontario, N. Y.; L. Ft. Clark, Tex. \* On detached service in District of the Neuse.

*Detached Service.*—1st Lieut. M. Crawford, Jr., member, G. C. M. instituted at Fort Clark, Tex., by par. 3, S. O. 4, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 8, Jan. 11, D. T.)

1st Lieut. E. T. C. Richmond will proceed from Carlisle Bks, Penn., to Washington, D. C., on public business (S. O. 12, Jan. 18, D. E.)

*Relieved.*—1st Lieut. E. B. Hubbard is relieved as member of Board of Officers convened in Washington, D. C., by S. O. 221, Oct. 14, from this office (S. O., Jan. 20, W. D.)

*Leave Extended.*—Capt. J. I. Rodgers, four days (S. O. 11, Jan. 15, D. T.)

*Drowned.*—John S. Hungerford, a private of Battery K, 2d Artillery, was drowned in Mill Creek, near Fortress Monroe, Sunday night, Jan. 19.

**3RD ARTILLERY.** Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. D. L. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Ft. Monroe, Va.; E. I. Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; H. Madison Bks, N. Y.; K. Plattburgh Bks, N. Y.; F. G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

**4TH ARTILLERY.** Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters, H. K. Angel Island, Cal.; C. L. Alcatraz Island, Cal.; M. Fort Stevens, Ore.; G. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. K. Fort Point, Cal.; F. Point San Jose, Cal.; B. D. Presidio Cal.

*To Join.*—1st Lieut. William F. Stewart, Bat. B, can now find quarters at the Presidio, and will therefore join his company (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, M. D. P.)

**5TH ARTILLERY.** Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and E. F. I. Charleston, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. L. M. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Key West, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.; D. Savannah, Ga.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. F. L. Guenther, 1st Lieut. Paul Roemer, James Curry, G. N. Whistler, members, and 2d Lieut. John P. Jefferson, J. A. of G. C. M. Key West Bks, Fla., Jan. 28 (S. O. 12, Jan. 20, D. S.)

**1ST INFANTRY.** Lieut. Col. Pinkney Lugenbeel.—Headquarters and A. C. I. Fort Randall, D. T.; B. G. Fort Hale, D. T.; D. H. Fort Sully, D. T.; F. K. Fort Meade, D. T.; E. Red Cloud Agency, D. T.

*Detached Service.*—Lieut. Col. P. Lugenbeel and Capt. I. Deltussy, members, G. C. M. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 17 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

**2ND INFANTRY.** Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and D. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.; C. K. Camp Howard, Idaho T.; B. E. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; A. G. H. Coeur d'Alene Lake, Idaho T.; F. Camp Harney, Ore.

**3RD INFANTRY.** Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones.—Headquarters and C. E. F. G. Fort Shaw, M. T.; A. Fort Benton, M. T.; K. Fort Logan, M. T.; B. D. H. I. Missoula City, M. T.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. Jacob F. Kent, James A. Snyder, 1st Lieut. William Mitchell, David A. Griffith, members, and 2d Lieut. Fayette W. Roe, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Shaw, Mont. T., Jan. 28 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

**4TH INFANTRY.** Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and B. O. F. G. Fort Sanders, Wy. T.; E. H. Fort Fred. Steele, Wy. T.; A. Ft. Fetterman, Wy. T.; D. K. Fort Laramie, Wy. T.; I. Fort D. A. Russell, Wy. T.

**5TH INFANTRY.** Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Ft. Keogh, M. T.

**6TH INFANTRY.** Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and C. D. E. F. G. I. Fort Buford, D. T.; A. B. Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.

**7TH INFANTRY.** Col. John Gibbon.—Headquarters, and B. C. E. F. H. K. Fort Snelling, Minn.; A. I. Fort Shaw, M. T.; G. Fort Ellis, M. T.; D. Fort Logan, M. T.

Pursuant to the provisions of par. 13, S. O. 140, and par. 1, S. O. 202, from the H. Q. A., the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Department of Dakota—JOHN GIBBON, Brevet Major General. (G. O. 26, Dec. 30, D. D.)

*Detached Service.*—Capt. C. Williams, member, G. C. M. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 17 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

Capt. C. A. Coolidge, 1st Lieut. F. M. H. Kendrick, 2d Lieut. A. B. Johnson, members, G. C. M. Fort Shaw, Mont. T., Jan. 28 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

*Relieved.*—Capt. Henry B. Freeman, relieved as a member G. C. M. instituted by par. 1, S. O. 145, of 1878, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 4, Jan. 13, D. D.)

*Fort Meade.*—The new post located on Bear Butte Creek, Black Hills, Dakota Territory, has been named by the Honorable Secretary of War, Fort Meade. Under date of Dec. 18, 1878, the President has declared the military reservation at the new post on Bear Butte Creek, Black Hills, Dakota Territory, now known as Fort Meade, D. T., with boundaries as hereinafter described, (Description omitted.) (G. O. 27, Dec. 31, D. D.)

**3TH INFANTRY.** Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters and A. H. K. Benicia Bks, Cal.; C. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; D. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; E. Camp Gaston, Cal.; F. Camp Mojave, A. T.; G. Camp Halleck, Nev.; I. San Diego, Cal.; B. Fort Yuma, Cal.

**9TH INFANTRY.** Col. John H. King.—Headquarters and G. H. Fort Omaha, Neb.; A. D. F. K. Fort McKinney, Wy. T.; I. Fort McPherson, Neb.; E. Camp at Cheyenne Depot, Wy. T.; B. Fort Sidney, Neb.; C. Fort Hartstuf, Neb.

*Detached Service.*—1st Lieut. James Regan is detailed a member G. C. M. convened at Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., by par. 1, S. O. 121, series of 1878, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. P.)

Capt. Edwin Pollock is detailed a member of the Board of Officers convened in Washington, D. C., by S. O. 221, Oct. 14, 1878, from this office, for the examination of candidates for appointment as Superintendents of National Cemeteries (S. O., Jan. 20, W. D.)

*Leave Extended.*—Capt. Edwin Pollock, Camp at Cheyenne Depot, Wy. T., one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 17, M. D. M.)

**10TH INFANTRY.** Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. B. C. F. I. Fort McKavett, Texas; D. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; E. Fort Griffin, Tex.; G. H. K. Fort Clark, Tex.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. E. G. Bush, R. H. Hall, F. E. Lacey, 1st Lieut. C. L. Davis, D. H. Kelton, Alured Larke, 2d Lieut. T. J. Clay, members, and 2d Lieut. Henry Kirby, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort McKavett, Tex., Jan. 20 (S. O. 11, Jan. 15, D. T.)

**11TH INFANTRY.** Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and D. E. G. I. K. Fort Bennett, D. T.; B. C. F. H. Fort Custer, M. T.; A. Fort Sully, D. T.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. C. A. Wikoff and W. C. Beach, members, G. C. M. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 17 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

**12TH INFANTRY.** Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and A. F. Fort Whipple, A. T.; B. K. Camp Verde, A. T.; C. D. Camp Apache, A. T.; E. Fort Supply, A. T.; G. Camp McDowell, A. T.; H. Camp Thomas, A. T.; I. Camp Grant, A. T.

*Detached Service.*—1st Lieut. D. J. Craigie will transfer to Capt. E. J. Straug, A. Q. M., the command and property at Yuma Depot, A. T., and thereafter report to the C. O. Fort Yuma, Cal., to conduct a detachment of recruits from that point to Fort Whipple, A. T. (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, D. A.)

**13TH INFANTRY.** Colonel P. R. de Trobriand.—Headquarters and A. D. H. I. Jackson Bks, La.; B. F. K. Rotor Rouge Bks, La.; G. Mount Vernon, Ala.; C. E. Little Rock Bks, Ark.

**14TH INFANTRY.** Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. F. H. I. K. Fort Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; B. C. G. Fort Cameron, U. T.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. Frederick E. Trotter, Gilbert S. Carpenter, Thomas F. Tobey, 1st Lieut. Charles B. Western, Julius E. Quentin, Frank Taylor, 2d Lieut. Richard T. Yeatman, members, and 1st Lieut. Albert Austin, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Douglas, U. T., Jan. 21 (S. O. 6, Jan. 14, D. P.)

**15TH INFANTRY.** Col. Geo. A. Woodward.—Headquarters and D. K. Ft. Wingate, N. M.; B. Ft. Garland, C. T.; F. Ft. Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; C. Fort Stanton, N. M.; I. Camp Lewis, Colo.; A. G. Fort Bliss, Tex.; H. Fort Marcy, N. M.

*Change of Station.*—1st Lieut. G. A. Cornish will relieve 1st Lieut. Gustavus Valois, 9th Cav., of his duties as A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S. at Camp Lewis, Colo., receiving to him all property, funds, etc., turned over (S. O. 2, Jan. 6, D. N. M.)

*Leave Extended.*—2d Lieut. George F. Cooke, further extended one month (S. O., Jan. 16, W. D.)

G. C. M.—A General Court-martial has been appointed in Special Orders from the Hdqrs of the Army to meet at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., on the 31 of February, for the trial of Capt. Thomas Blair, 15th Infantry. Lieut. Col. R. B. Ayres, 31 Art., is President, and Major Swain, of the Bureau of Mil. Justice, Judge-Advocate of the Court.

**16TH INFANTRY.** Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headqrs. A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; E. I. Fort Reno, Ind. T.; B. D. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; K. Fort Gibson, Ind. T.; F. G. Ft. Wallace, Kas.

**17TH INFANTRY.** Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and C. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. D. H. I. Fort Yates, D. T.; G. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; A. F. Fort Sisseton, D. T.; E. K. Fort Pembina, D. T.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. C. E. Bennett, member, G. C. M. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 17 (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, D. D.)

*Christmas at Fort Pembina.*—The Emerson, Minn. toba, International, of Jan. 2, says:

The boys in blue at Fort Pembina got up something handsome in the way of dinners on Christmas day. Both Companies E and K showed excellent taste and judgment in the get-up. Caterer William Smith, of Co. E, put on the board something like the following: Oyster stew, roast turkey, with sage, onions and cranberry sauce, boiled ham (fresh), roast pork, sage and onions, mashed potatoes, green peas (fresh), stewed tomatoes, celery, pickles, cheese, bread and butter, chicken salad, lobster salad and—for dessert—mince pie, fruit cake, plain cake, cranberry tarts, raspberry jam tarts, blackberry jam tarts, custard, currant jelly, apples, nuts, raisins and candies. With such a bill of fare and such a caterer as Smith the boys must have felt happy. The garrison dining-room was handsomely decorated for the occasion. Two rifles were crossed in front of the door, forming an angle; a card of canvas bore the inscription: "Company E, Seventeenth Infantry. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year." Company K also made a similar display. The officers of the post and their ladies visited the dining-rooms, inspected the tables and were highly pleased.

**18TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga.; A, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**19TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and E, H, K, Fort Lyon, C. T.; D, F, G, Fort Dodge, Kas.; C, I, Fort Elliott, Tex.; A, B, Fort Supply, Ind. T.

**20TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B, D, G, I, K, Fort Brown, Tex.; A, San Antonio, Tex.; C, E, F, H, Fort Clark, Tex.

**Relieved.**—1st Lieut. A. Wishart, relieved as member G. C.-M. instituted at Fort Clark, Tex., by par. 3, S. O. 4, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 8, Jan. 11, D. T.)

1st Lieuts. P. Harwood and J. Bannister are relieved as members G. C.-M. instituted at Fort Clark, Tex., by par. 3, S. O. 4, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 8, Jan. 11, D. T.)

**21ST INFANTRY**, Colonel Alfred Sully.—Headquarters and D, G, K, Fort Vancouver, Wash. T.; A, Fort Boise, Ind. T.; H, Camp Harney, Or.; F, Fort Klamath, Or.; C, Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.; B, E, Fort Townsend, Wash. T.; I, Fort Canby, Wash. T.

**Detached Service.**—The journey performed by 2d Lieut. Edward S. Farrow, from Fort Vancouver, Wash. T., to Fort Townsend, Wash. T., on the 6th inst., on public business, is authorized (S. O. 152, Dec. 26, D. C.)

**22ND INFANTRY**, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and B, G, Fort Porter, N. Y.; A, C, D, H, Fort Wayne, Mich.; F, K, Fort Brady, Mich.; E, Fort Mackinac, Mich.; I, Fort Gratiot, Mich.

**Detached Service.**—2d Lieut. Alfred C. Sharpe will proceed to Fort Gratiot, Mich., for temporary duty (S. O. 9, Jan. 15, D. E.)

1st Lieuts. Benjamin C. Lockwood, Fielding L. Davies, 2d Lieuts. J. M. Gore, M. C. Martin, members, and 1st Lieut. Hiram H. Ketchum, Adj. J. A. of G. C.-M. Fort Porter, N. Y., Jan. 21 (S. O. 11, Jan. 17, D. E.)

**Leaves of Absence.**—Two months, Capt. Mott Hooton, Fort Brady, Mich. (S. O. 4, Jan. 20, M. D. A.)

**23RD INFANTRY**, Colonel Jeff. C. Davis.—Headquarters and A, D, E, F, G, H, I, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; B, C, K, Fort Hays, Kas.

**Leaves Extended.**—Col. Jeff. C. Davis, Fort Leavenworth, Kas., further extended three days (S. O. 7, Jan. 13, D. M.)

**Detached Service.**—2d Lieut. Lea Febiger will conduct a detachment of prisoners to the Leavenworth Military Prison, and then join his company (S. O., Jan. 16, W. D.)

**24TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and A, B, F, Fort Duncan, Tex.; D, E, H, Fort McIntosh, Tex.; C, G, I, K, Fort Ringgold, Tex.

**Detached Service.**—Capt. Lewis Johnson, J. N. Morgan, 1st Lieut. J. M. Thompson, 2d Lieuts. J. I. Kane, A. A. Augur, members, and 1st Lieut. F. H. Mills, J. A. of G. C.-M. Fort Ringgold, Tex., Jan. 22 (S. O. 9, Jan. 13, D. T.)

**Lieut. Dold.**—Of this officer, the San Antonio Daily Express says: "The illness of the deceased was very short and unknown to his many friends here. It is scarcely two weeks since he left this place with his wife and child for his station, apparently in the best of health. His untimely death is much mourned by his many friends in the Army and in the civil walks of life. He was a gentleman of elegant manners, culture and refinement, a most excellent soldier, standing high with his superiors, and as a husband and father his devotion to his wife and child was unequalled. The deceased was a native of Hanover, Germany. He was born in the year 1838, and at an early age was placed in a cadet school in the city of Hanover, entering in due time the Hanoverian army, where he rose to the rank of 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant of one of the regiments of the King's body guard."

Of the funeral services of Lieutenants Dold and Warrington (4th Cavalry), the *Courier* of San Antonio, Jan. 6, says:

Yesterday was a sad day for the military of this city. At St. Mark's Cathedral the beautiful and impressive solemn service for the burial of the dead, was held over the bodies of Lieut. H. Dold of the 24th Infantry, and Lieut. Warrington. At about half past two the hearse bearing the dead, drew up to the gates of the church yard where a company of artillery awaited them at the gate. The Rev. Richardson met the cortege and read the sentences, while the coffin shrouded in national flags, each carried by six pall-bearers from the regiments stationed here were carried into the church, followed by many citizens and friends. The Anthem father from the 39 and 90 psalms, "Lord, let me know my end," was sung. The lesson taken from the first Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians being read, the Lord's prayer, prayer for those in affliction and collect were read. Then followed a dirge beautifully rendered by Capt. Stivers, Wares, Norcross and Lloyd (?) "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," which ended the services in the church. The coffin was removed, the cortege reformed, and proceeded to the carriages which followed in a long line to the cemetery. The escort, with reversed arms and headed by buglers marching in front, the mournful procession took to their last sleep two gallant and excellent gentlemen, who had devoted their lives to the good of their country, and though not struck down by the enemy's bullet, were nevertheless cut off in the honorable discharge of their duties.

**25TH INFANTRY**, Colonel George L. Andrews.—Headquarters and E, H, I, Fort Davis, Tex.; C, D, F, Fort Stockton, Tex.; B, San Felipe, Tex.; A, G, K, Ft. Concho, Tex.

**Post Discontinued.**—Camp Lewis, Colo., is discontinued as a sub-post of Fort Garland, Colo. The Troops composing its garrison will be dropped from

the strength of the garrison of Fort Garland, Colo. (S. O. 2, Jan. 6, D. N. M.)

**Officers' Quarters.**—A Board of Officers, to consist of Lieut.-Col. John Campbell, Surg.; Major William B. Rochester, P. D.; Capt. George B. Russell, 9th Inf., A. D. C., will assemble at Newport Bks, Ky., Friday the 17th inst., to inspect the officers' quarters erected by Messrs. Harris and Venables, Contractors; and said by them to be ready for occupation (S. O. 10, Jan. 10, D. S.)

**Fire at Chicago.**—A Board of Survey, to consist of Col. Charles L. Kilburn, Asst. Com. Gen. of Subsistence; Col. Robert Murray, Surg.; Lieut.-Col. Absalom Baird, Asst. Insp. Gen., will convene in Chicago, Ill., on the 15th inst., to ascertain and report upon the loss and damage to property pertaining to the Quartermaster's Department, caused by the recent fire at the building used for Division Headquarters, and fix the responsibility therefor (S. O. 3, Jan. 14, M. D. M.)

**Trial of New Inventions.**—The Schofield combination screw-drivers, and hoof-hooks, Nos. 1 and 2, sent to this Department for practical trial in the field, have been issued by the Chief Ordnance Officer of the Department to the following named officers, viz: Capt. S. B. M. Young, 8th Cav.; Capt. L. H. Carpenter, 10th Cav.; Capt. A. B. Kaufman, 8th Cav.; Capt. C. D. Vele, 10th Cav.; Capt. J. M. Kelley, 10th Cav.; 1st Lieut. H. H. Crewes, 4th Cav.; 1st Lieut. R. A. Williams, 8th Cav.; 1st Lieut. C. E. Nordstrom, 10th Cav.; 1st Lieut. C. A. P. Hatfield, 4th Cav.; 2d Lieut. F. E. Phelps, 8th Cav. The officers named will render periodical (bi-monthly) reports to these Headquarters as to their merits, with such remarks and recommendations as they may deem proper to make (S. O. 10, Jan. 14, D. T.)

A Board of Officers is appointed to meet at the office of the Depot Q. M., San Francisco, Tuesday the 7th inst., to examine and report upon a field cooking and heating stove, the invention of Mr. William B. Collier, of San Francisco. Detail for the Board: Major R. N. Batchelder, Q. M.; Capt. George M. Brayton, 8th Inf.; Capt. Marcus P. Miller, 4th Art. (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, M. D. P.)

#### THE CHEYENNE OUTBREAK.

We have no official information thus far of the pursuit of the Cheyennes who escaped from Fort Robinson on the night of Jan. 9th. Lieut. Walter S. Schuyler, A. D. C., has been sent by Gen. Crook to Camp Robinson to keep him advised of the military movements. A newspaper despatch, dated Omaha, Jan. 21st, says:

"Information received at Military Headquarters from Lieutenant Schuyler, at Camp Robinson, confirms General Crook's opinion regarding the responsibility for the escape of the Cheyenne prisoners. Lieutenant Schuyler states that snow has fallen on the trail, and he now believes it to be improbable that any but the dead and wounded, or worn out squaws, will hereafter be picked up. He states that on the night of the outbreak the soldiers were allowed to go to their bunks as usual, with the exception of the men stationed about the Cheyennes' building. An Indian stated that they were preparing for the outbreak that night, but his story was not believed, and no preparations were made to frustrate their design to escape. The day after Wild Hog was arrested outside of the prison, the door was opened to let out one of the men who was willing to give up, but he was immediately pounced upon by the others and forced back, while the bucks began crowding out of the door together, Wild Hog's cry being, 'Get out of the way; here we come!' Twenty carbines were at once leveled on the door, checking them, and they immediately began tearing up the floors. About six o'clock they became quiet and the danger was considered over until the occurrence of their sudden outbreak. Schuyler shows the company at the lower camp, one mile from the place of confinement of the Indians, to have been better handled and more effective than those who had the reds on hand. The shots fired in the prison room were mostly from carbines. A few shells were found in the room. The first five Indians killed had Sharps carbines and a good deal of ammunition. One had a Henry rifle, and there were in their possession a large number of carbines. After six guns and two revolvers had been captured the Indians were still able to fire a volley from each ambush of from six to twelve shots, according to different estimates. The Indians got into very rough ground, covered with brush, and Schuyler was informed by the officers that getting them out would have cost the lives of from twenty to thirty men. Up to the time when they broke out the Indians were allowed fires all the time."

Another despatch from Fort Robinson, Jan. 21st, says:

Lieutenant Dold, Third United States cavalry, who had been sent to the Pine Ridge Agency under orders from Captain Wessells to obtain fifteen Indian scouts, returned at midnight, accompanied by the soldier chiefs Three Bears and No Flesh. He was followed by a detachment of some seventeen Indians, whom he had enlisted for three months with the approval of General Crook. Lieutenant Dold also brought with him from Camp Sheridan one 15 pound mountain howitzer, which is to be used in shelling the Cheyennes out of their earthworks. He will start to join the command in the field to-morrow morning. Among those going as Indian scouts are some of the bravest, heretofore most warlike and cunning, of the Sioux native soldiery, while they are now justly recognized as reformed men of considerable caution, judgment and conservatism.

Still another despatch dated, "In the Field, Wessells' command, near Hot Creek Road, 30 miles from Fort Robinson, Jan. 21st," says:

On yesterday morning Captain Wessells was encamped near the base of the hills where the Cheyennes succeeded in surprising and killing Private J. Barbour, a member of his company, (Co. H, 3d Cavalry) the day previous. He determined to recover the body, which, pierced with bullets, had fallen from his horse within twenty-five yards of the Cheyennes' entrenched position. It had lain there all day. Picking eight men from his command the little party, with revolvers in hand, dashed forward at full gallop, as they supposed into the range of Cheyennes. Two minutes brought them to where Barbour's body lay in a small ravine. It was stripped of clothing and scalped on the side of the head by the hostiles during the night. The troops finding themselves not fired upon, dashed further up the hill and found the savages had again escaped, their trail leading west. Four companies of the Third Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Evans, who had that moment arrived started on the trail. Capt. Wessells was following the trail when Private Barbour was killed. The command, which had, during the march, been reinforced by Captain Lawson's company, so as to number all told, 100 men, moved on without observing a sign of the enemy, when suddenly the fugitives, repeating the tactics observed in their last encounter with Captain Wessells, fired a rattling volley into the troops at short range, by which Private Barbour was killed.

A Washington despatch dated Jan. 18 says:

Information has been received here that Red Cloud arrived at Fort Robinson last night. The Ogallala Indians are very much excited over the late affair with the Cheyennes, and at their urgent request the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of War have consented that all the women and children now widows and orphans of those now held as prisoners, being related to the Ogallalas, be turned over to them as their natural protectors, to take them to their homes and take care of them.

From Cheyenne, January 18, the following is telegraphed:

Cos. A, B, D, F, I, and M, of the 5th Cavalry, having been ordered to take the field in search of Little Wolf's band of Cheyennes, who are believed to be committing depredations on ranches in Northwestern Nebraska, will move from Fort Russell to-morrow, under command of Capt. Montgomery.

As to the cause of the outbreak at Fort Robinson the Omaha Herald says:

These Cheyennes were surrounded in the sand hills of Northwest Nebraska in a severe snow storm on the 20th of October last by three companies of the 3d Cavalry under Capt. Johnston. Their number was then officially given as 149. They then said they would remain peaceably at Camp Robinson or live with Red Cloud's people, but would die before they would return to their reservation in the Indian Territory, where they had been starved. The Commissioner did nothing in the case until the 19th of December, when he ordered their removal to Kansas. The thermometer that day at Camp Robinson indicated thirty degrees below zero. The Commissioner must have known this. It was one of the items of news, current in all the journals of the country. The squaws and children hadn't a blanket that wasn't in rags. They did leave their reservation in the same clothing they now wear, but they left in August, and it is now January; besides, clothing often wears out in Nebraska as well as in Washington. On the 30th of December, 1878, the Commissioner was informed by telegraph that before these Indians could be moved they must have clothing. He never answered the telegram until Jan. 11, the very day of the outbreak. This whole Cheyenne business is in keeping with the rest of the Indian Bureau management. It is a disgrace to the American nation.

Order General Crook to Washington, make him show all the papers, telegrams, and indorsements of his office that bear upon this subject. If he be the guilty one punish him, but if not, and we are willing to wager heavily that he is not, then let the one who is delinquent be sacrificed.

The latest despatch is to the Associated Press, dated Fort Robinson, Jan. 22, as follows: "The Cheyenne Indian campaign has closed for a time at least. On Monday, Colonel Evans, with Companies B and D, 3d Cavalry, found runaways in a strong position on the cliff four miles north of the stage road and partially succeeded in cutting off their progress. They, however, effected their usual escape and moved toward Red Cloud Agency. Captain Wessells, whose scouts conveyed this news to him, started at once on the trail with his four companies of cavalry, and at noon to-day he came up with them some forty-five miles from this post. Then the work of capturing them dead or alive began in thorough earnest. In fact but nine, all badly wounded, were captured of the forty-nine fugitives that were in the field; 34 were killed, leaving seventeen unaccounted for. Captain Wessells was slightly wounded. The sergeant of Company E and an Indian scout were also wounded to an unknown extent. Three of Captain Wessells' command—a sergeant, a farrier and one private—were killed. This news arrived verbally by a courier at midnight, and more couriers, with details of the battle, are expected soon. Ambulances started at midnight to bring in the dead and wounded."

(By telegraph to the N. Y. Herald.)

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1879.

GEN. SHERMAN said to-night that the War Department had no other information concerning the recent outbreak among the Cheyennes than had already appeared in the *Herald*. The General had just finished his dinner and was going to get ready for the Henry memorial exercises at the Capitol.

"You have read the details of the story of the massacre of the Cheyennes then, General?" asked your correspondent.

"Massacre! massacre!" repeated General Sherman, "why do you call it a massacre? A number of insubordinate, cunning, treacherous Indians, who had no more regard for the lives of our officers and soldiers than if they had been dogs, attempted to escape from the custody of our troops and used violence to carry on their rebellious act. They were treated just as they deserved to be, and it is folly to attempt to extenuate such a crime by soft sounding words."

"But, General, may there not have been aggravating surroundings which led to the attempt of the Cheyennes to free themselves?"

"That question is easily answered. The orders were to remove the Cheyennes from Fort Sill to the Indian Territory. They resisted, revolted, and fled. It was a duty imposed upon Gen. Crook to see that the order was executed. Insubordination in the Army is always fatal to military discipline. Shall a lot of Indians, then, be permitted to do what we would not tolerate for an instant among our own race? No, no. The rascals were determined to resist, cost what it might, and as this Government is not yet prepared to yield to the dictation of any number of Indians, the measures enforced were just precisely what the exigencies of the occasion demanded."

"You do not suspect, then, that there was anything like jobbery on the part of the Indian agent that provoked them to act as they did?"

"Nothing of the kind. The Cheyennes were ordered to the Indian Territory from Fort Sill, and they were in charge of the military to be transferred. They were not inclined to go and the usual precaution was taken, as was supposed, to make them harmless. That precaution was not thoroughly taken, and the result is a conflict between the Indians and our troops in the enforcement of military order."

Secretary Schurz declined to speak on the matter.

THE New York Herald says: General Tower, of the Engineer Corps, was detailed by the War Department, at the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, to inspect the Sub-Treasury building in New York, and report upon a plan for strengthening as well as properly defending it in case of an attack. In due course of time he made his report, which was adopted, and a contract was signed by the Treasury Department for steel gratings, bars and shutters to be attached to the building. Besides this three steel turrets are to be erected on the roof, pierced for musketry, so as to guard against and repel an attack from the tops of adjoining houses. The centre turret is to be of octagonal shape. At the same time the Assay Office, adjoining the Sub-Treasury on Wall-street, will be protected.

## SOME PERSONAL ITEMS.

COL. GUY V. HENRY, of the 3d Cavalry, has recently returned from a trip in Europe in improved health, and is spending a short time in Washington during the continuance of his leave.

GEN. GIBSON, Vice President, presided at the dinner of California pioneers at the Sturtevant House, New York, Jan. 20, and among those reported present were Capt. Walter W. Queen, U. S. N., and Gen. Thos. W. Sweeny, U. S. A.

The many friends of the Rev. Dr. John McCarty, Chaplain U. S. Army, will regret to learn of the death of Mrs. McCarty at Washington, on the 22d January; also of the death of his only daughter, Mrs. Crawford, in Oregon, on the 30th January.

The watch worn by Major Andre when he was arrested as a spy is in the possession of a lady at Oshkosh. It is a curious, oval shaped timepiece, inscribed inside, John Andre, 1774.

HENRY MORRISSEY, who fought on the *Victory* at Trafalgar, saw Nelson fall and subsequently had his own leg broken by a shot, has just died at Halifax, aged 94 years.

The sledge in which Napoleon crossed the Alps is reported still to be doing duty at Lausanne, or rather that in which he rode from Martigny to Bourg St. Pierre. It is gayly painted, and its sides are ornamented with victorious eagles.

LIEUTENANT F. V. GREENE, of the Engineer Corps, who accompanied the Czar's forces in the Turko-Russian war in the capacity of military attaché of the American Legation, arrived at Washington on Monday, Jan. 20, and paid official visits to the President and Secretary of War.

GEN. SHERIDAN announces that less objection is heard from members, the next reunion of the Army of the Cumberland will be held at Washington in June, when Mr. Ward promises to have the statue of Gen. Thomas ready for inauguration.

COL. CASEY, of the Engineer Corps, reports officially that from Oct. 1 up to Nov. 30, 1878, \$7,787.83 was spent on the completion of the Washington Monument, and \$1,149.94 in strengthening the foundation. He proposes to strengthen the foundation by introducing under it masonry in their vertical layers not over four feet in width and of the required height and length. The terrace should, he reports, be first embanked to its proposed height, which will cost, it is estimated, \$99,102.85.

The obsequies of the late Congressman Schleicher took place at San Antonio, Jan. 19. The remains lay in state four hours and were viewed by thousands of citizens. Besides the local organization, General Ord and his staff, a battalion of United States Infantry, the Congressional committee, and the Texas legislative committee joined in the procession. Three brass bands and a company of colored militia were also in the procession. The buildings were draped with crape and minute guns were fired from the arsenal. Almost the entire population turned out.

The following are the arrivals at the Ebbitt House, Washington, during the week ending Jan. 22, 1879: Gen. N. W. Brown, Asst. Paymaster-General, U. S. A.; Jas. E. Jowett, U. S. N.; Aaron Ward, U. S. N.; Capt. Cowly, U. S. A.; C. P. Rees, U. S. N.; H. S. Waring, U. S. A.; P. P. Gilmore, U. S. N.; E. H. Richmond, U. S. A.; E. W. Ward, U. S. A.; J. A. Scantling, U. S. A.; Dr. W. H. McCleary, U. S. N.; J. M. Fife, U. S. N.; W. E. Merrill, U. S. A.; G. D. Wallace, U. S. A.; T. M. McDougall, U. S. A.

The marriage of Lieut. Seaton Schroeder, of the Navy, to Miss Maria Wainwright, of Washington, took place at St. John's Church on the evening of Jan. 16. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Lewis, rector of the parish. The church was beautifully decorated and lighted, and it was filled to overflowing with the elite of Washington society. The bride is the daughter of a deceased Army officer, the grand daughter of the late Col. Wainwright, of the Marine Corps, and the great grand daughter of Dr. Benjamin Franklin. Lieut. Schroeder has recently returned from a foreign station, and he has been assigned to duty in Washington.

The General of the Army intends at an early day to make a long contemplated tour of inspection through Florida, Georgia and the South Atlantic States, in the course of which he will return after an absence of forty years to the scene of a part of his earlier life as well as revisit many of the points of interest covered by his later campaigns. The direct object of his trip, however, is to examine certain abandoned military posts and other neglected property of the United States in Florida and at Atlanta with a view to ascertaining what measures should be taken to reclaim and preserve the same and secure the interests of the general government therein. He will be absent ten days or two weeks.

The *Vallejo Chronicle*, of Dec. 13th, 1878, says: "Thursday afternoon Mrs. Watson, keeper of the light house on Mare Island and wife of the late Commodore Watson, met with a severe if not serious accident. She was returning home from Vallejo in her phaeton, and when on the bluff at the entrance of the light house grounds in going through the gate-way one of the wheels of the vehicle struck the gate-post and threw the lady out, a distance down the embankment of about thirty feet, where she lodged on a little projection in an insensible condition. Dr. Farwell attended to her injuries. She was found to be badly cut around the face and head, and has received internal injuries."

The *N. Y. Herald* (Omaha) correspondent says: "General Crook has been suffering many weeks from a severe cold, with an attack of malarial fever, and has left his residence but once during that time. When the trouble occurred at Camp Robinson he was considered unable to attend to business, but insisted on giving his whole attention to it, and handled and sent telegrams, unquestionably at great inconvenience, being four miles from Department Headquarters and his adjutant, General Robert Williams, and, becoming impatient at the meagre and vague character of the telegrams he received, he despatched to Camp Robinson Lieutenant Schuyler, of his staff, whose keenness and sagacity in unearthing facts are well known in this Department."

The *N. Y. Telegram* says: "Probably the White House has not seen such poorly attended receptions for a quarter of a century. Of course the general dullness of politics has something to do with the dullness of the social side of official life; but this administration never could be a brilliant one if it were prolonged to the end of the next quarter of a century. The only really interesting thing that has happened at any of the White House receptions thus far was the presence of Chief Joseph last week. This savage, having

slaughtered a large number of United States soldiers and baffled their commanders and shown himself a man of genuine abilities, was the object of no little attention. The presence of the President was quite forgotten, and Chief Joseph was the lion of the occasion."

The following officers were registered at the War Department for the week ending Jan. 22: Major Wm. Austine, retired; Lieut. J. E. Macklin, 11th Infantry; Capt. J. S. Payne, 5th Cavalry; Colonel Saml. Ross, retired; Major A. R. Arnold, 6th Cavalry; Captain E. V. Sumner, 1st Cavalry; Captain S. S. Sumner, 5th Cavalry; Lieut. Col. G. W. Gile, retired; Colonel M. D. L. Simpson, Asst. Com. Gen. Sub.; Lieut. F. W. Halleck, retired; Capt. D. W. Benham, 7th Infantry; Lieut. L. A. Nesmith, retired; Major C. B. Comstock, Engineers; Lieut. E. H. Ruffner, Engineers; Lieut. D. B. Wilson, adjutant, 25th Infantry; Captain E. A. Woodson, 5th Cavalry; Captain E. M. Hayes, 5th Cavalry; Lieut. W. P. Hall, 5th Cavalry; Lieut. F. Green, Engineers.

LONDON *World*: "I hear from Gibraltar that Lord Napier and the General became great cronies on the occasion of the ex-President's visit to that place. They rolled and strolled about, and had mess dinners, and there was a review as well as a sham battle. There was some surprise that the General did not wear his uniform at the review; but the American Consul told my correspondent that Ulysses had tired of his uniform and sent it home. However, his horsemanship was a theme of universal admiration. The soldiers did their best in marching and maneuvering. Lord Napier was greatly pleased, and said he had never seen them do so well in his life, and he supposed they were putting their best foot forward for the Yankee commander. It was rather a trial to undergo the inspection of a man who had commanded over a million of men and taken part, in most instances as commander, in fifty pitched battles."

The Interior Department report that information has been received at Cheyenne Agency of the return of Sitting Bull across the border, but no confirmation has been received. 3,000 lodges are reported with him. He comes like the prodigal son, Secretary Schurz reports, anxious to throw himself into the arms of the Indian Bureau. The *N. Y. Times* well says: "As the fatted calf was killed by the prodigal before he went away, it is not likely that there will be any merry-making over his return. The Commissioners explicitly told Sitting Bull and his band, when they offered them terms to surrender and amity, that they would have no second opportunity to consider a new settlement in the United States. As this statement was received with contempt, it would be only fair to Sitting Bull now to show him the way back to the dominions of the Great Mother, whose maternal care he so much needs."

THE Fredericksburg, Va., *News* of Jan. 9, says: "Yesterday, about 2 P. M., after a lingering illness and long confinement, Commander George Minor, of the late Confederate States Navy, formerly and for many years a distinguished officer of the United States Navy, died peacefully at his home in Fredericksburg, in the 71st year of his age. His life had been one of active service in his chosen and adventurous profession, while his abilities commanded high offices of honor and trust. In the old Navy, he was universally esteemed, and during the Confederate war was made Chief of Ordnance and head of the Bureau of Hydrography at Richmond, a most important position. A man of high character and attainment, and delightful conversational powers, gallant, warm-hearted, beloved, after years of patient endurance he has reached the serene 'haven where he would be.' He entered the Navy of the United States April 1, 1827, and resigned April 22, 1861, as commander."

OF Gen. A. S. Williams, the Montpelier (Vt.) *Freeman*, says: "The Michigan representative who has just died, Gen. Williams was a very different man from Douglass, the Virginian, and beginning his rebellion record in the Shenandoah valley, commanding the brigade in which were the 3d Wisconsin and 2d Massachusetts regiments, closed it with great honor as one of Sherman's chief commanders in the march to the sea. He was called by his soldiers 'Old Pap' and had their affection and respect. When they were put under his command they did not like him, for on drill he 'would fly to pieces' and get excited and nervous to such an extent that they expected when under fire he would be good for nothing. But they said that the irritable drill master, just as soon as the bullets began to fly, was calm as a summer morning. The whole man was changed in action; with his cigar alight he would sit alert to every need, quiet and affable as could be, never decomposed or thrown from his guard by the press of danger. He had, too, a great horror of military foppery, and dressed himself in rather a sordid manner for an officer of high rank."

THE Commandery of the State of Tennessee, Mil. Order Loyal Legion, at their meeting held in Memphis, December 25, 1878: "Resolved, That the officers and companions of this Commandery desire to place upon record a formal acknowledgment of their appreciation of the high courage and kindly and charitable impulses which led their late companion, N. D. Menken, Esq., to remain during the prevalence of the recent terrible visitation of yellow fever in Memphis, where on the second of September, 1878, he gave his life as a forfeit to his care of his suffering fellow-citizens; and that while regretting the great loss his death has been to this community, where he was for many years an esteemed and valued citizen, and an honorable merchant, and while his death is personally an almost irretrievable loss to the many friends to whom he was endeared by his high character and amiable disposition, it is still a source of pride and gratification to remember that he met his death bravely, as a soldier should in the discharge of the highest duty known to mankind, that of ministering to the sick and dying." The deceased was a captain of 1st O. Vol. Cavalry during the Civil War. "In Memphis," a correspondent writes us, "he has greatly distinguished himself as a benefactor to the poor and sick, no novel being too unclean, no individual too humble to visit. He was everywhere doing good, and fell at last a martyr in the cause of humanity. He was wealthy, had a wife and family, and had no reason to remain, but to aid the suffering and distressed. He has many friends in the Army."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Christian at Work* says: "The Military Academy at West Point has not generally been considered a nursery for the church, and yet some of the noblest soldiers of the Cross have been soldiers of our Army—graduates of the United States Military Academy. The reader will naturally recall the Rev. Dr. Francis Vinton, Associate Rector of Trinity Church, in this city. Then there are the Rev. Drs. Pendleton and Bledsoe, who

have passed away. The oldest living graduate is the Rev. N. Sayre Harris, who was graduated in the class of '23, and is now assistant to the Rev. Dr. S. H. Tyng, Jr., in the Church of the Holy Trinity. Dr. Marvin P. Parks is remembered as a prominent clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was at one time Chaplain and Professor of Ethics in the Military Academy. In 1841 he was elected Bishop of Alabama, which office he declined, accepting later an appointment as Assistant Rector of Trinity. Dr. Parks died at sea in 1853. Another is the Rev. James Clark—Roman Catholic. He entered the priesthood in 1847. The Methodist Church is represented by the Rev. Robert T. P. Allen, who graduated in 1834. He entered the ministry in 1837, which he eventually quitted, though maintaining his connection and interest with his church and its religious interests. He is living in Florida. The Rev. Dr. M. S. Culbertson was graduated in 1839, in the class with General Halleck. He entered the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in 1844, shortly after having been graduated at Princeton. Dr. Culbertson's greatest work was his translation of the Bible into Chinese. He refused to come home and take part in the war, though he would have been made a general officer, preferring the Master's work in China. He died in China in 1862, universally regretted. One of the finest spirits who was ever graduated from West Point was Colonel Charles C. Parsons, as he was one of the youngest. The death of his wife and children here, led him in 1876 to return to his old post at Memphis, and here he remained doing his Master's work until he fell a victim to the terrible scourge which visited so many southern cities during the last summer. We may add that Dr. John Forsyth, of the Reformed Church, is a graduate of the Military Academy. After serving in the ministry he accepted—we believe in 1867—the chaplaincy of the post at West Point, where he is at present. The little record here made, and such names as Thomas, Vickers, Havelock, show—what we all know—that soldiers of the Army not unfrequently make the best soldiers of the Cross." Dr. Forsyth is taking a course now at the Military Academy, where he is most highly esteemed, but it will be news to him to learn that he is numbered among the graduates.

## THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'der-in-Chief  
RICHARD W. THOMPSON, Secretary of the Navy.  
JOHN W. HOGG, Chief Clerk.

## VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE arrival of the *Wyoming* is reported officially at Villefranche, Dec. 24, in good condition and all well on board.

THE Kells Court-martial have concluded their proceedings and transmitted the record to the Secretary of the Navy.

REAR ADMIRAL LE ROY, in a despatch dated at Nice, Dec. 23, reports that he is advised of the proposed departure of the *Gettysburg* about Dec. 25, from Syra, Greece, for Villefranche.

THE *Supply* sailed from Havre for New York Jan. 2, filled up with goods from the Paris Exposition. She has on board 23 car loads—six hundred and sixty-eight packages.

THE relief officers of the *Vandalia* and *Marion* have not yet been ordered, but will probably be about the 1st of February. These vessels are to be attached to the North Atlantic Station.

RUMORS are that Captain Mayo, late commanding the *Hartford*, is on the way to the United States from Brazil; also that Surgeon Bradley, of the *Lackawanna*, has been tried by Court-martial, and is returning home from Panama.

THE *Marion* arrived at New York Jan. 19, having sailed from Villefranche Nov. 14, having taken the southern passage and touched at Gibraltar, Madeira, and St. Thomas. She had continuous gales before reaching the trade winds, and afterwards experienced light winds and calms. She put into St. Thomas Jan. 8, and remained about 36 hours.

COMMANDER WILLIAM GIBSON, recently nominated for transfer from that grade on the retired list to the grade of lieutenant commander on the active list, is petitioning Congress for such further legislation as will put him in a position in the Navy commensurate with his long service and professional qualifications.

THE Secretary of the Navy has recommended an appropriation of about \$7,000 to fit up the *Antietam* at League Island for the accommodation of the marines at the station. They are now quartered on the iron clad *Dictator*, which is in every way unsuitable, besides being damp, dark, and unhealthy. In the summer season she is a bake oven.

THE general impression is that the naval committees will report favorably on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy to make Acting Assistant Surgeon William Martin a surgeon, not in the line of promotion, for meritorious services during the yellow fever epidemic.

At the annual election of officers of the U. S. Naval Institute, held at Annapolis Jan. 9, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Rear-Admiral Jno. Rodgers; Vice President, Commodore Foxhall A. Parker; Secretary, Lieut. J. C. Soley; Corresponding Secretary, Prof. C. E. Monroe; Treasurer, Chief Engineer J. P. Sprague; Committee on Publications, Lieut. Commander A. D. Brown; P. A. Engineer, G. H. Kearny; Lieut. J. W. Miller.

CAPTAIN GEO. BROWN, commanding the *Albatross*, gives a brief account in a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated at Panama, Jan. 3, of the outbreak at that place on the night of Dec. 27, by parties opposed to the administration of General Corrozo, President of the State. Mr. Leguendo Perera, Gov-

ernor of the District, was attacked and murdered, also three policemen; and several others were wounded. Gen. Corrozo resigned Dec. 29, his resignation was accepted, and the 1st Vice President, J. R. Casoria, was installed as President. Everything had been quiet since, and General Corrozo had gone to the Northern part of the state.

The Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of War, Commodore Jeffers, English, and Whiting, and a number of other prominent officials, visited the Navy yard at Washington, on Saturday the 18th of Jan., to witness experiments with the Hotchkiss revolving gun, which is so highly spoken of in the recent annual report of the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance. The target practice was moderately good. The rapidity of fire, facility for loading, simplicity of the machinery, and apparent wonderful capacity of the gun for effective work at from 500 to 1,000 yards, were points that the spectators most appreciated. There were some other things about the yard quite as much appreciated, especially the proverbial hospitality of the commanding officer of the training ship *Saratoga*. The experiments with the Hotchkiss we propose to give a further account of.

The *Vandalia* is reported as having proven herself a fine sea-boat on her recent passage from St. Thomas to Boston, in the course of which she encountered three or four of the fierce gales which were prevailing in the Atlantic. At times she rolled her bulwarks under water, but brought up all right. There is but little to be done to her to make her again ready for a three years' cruise. The *Vandalia* and *Marion* have displayed about the same speed in their recent passages, if it may be called speed, having taken their departure from Villefranche just one week apart, and reached home within the same interval—the *Marion* making about 16 hours on the *Vandalia*, but the latter having a little further distance to go. Neither made a short passage or gained much celebrity for the southern route.

REAR ADMIRAL PATTERSON, in a despatch dated at Yokohama, Dec. 12, reports the movements of the vessels of his command on the Asiatic Station. The *Ranger* arrived at Nagasaki, Nov. 25. The *Ashuelot* had visited Kobe, Nagasaki, Foochow, Amoy, and Hong Kong, which latter port she left Dec. 2 for Manila. The *Monocacy* left Yokohama, Dec. 11, for Yokosuka, to be docked, thence to go to Shanghai. The *Monongahela* arrived on Dec. 9 at Yokohama from Kobe, and the Admiral transferred his flag to her. The *Palos* is at Tientsin. The *Alert* had been ordered to Yokohama, preparatory to her return to San Francisco. (A cable despatch received a few days ago announces her departure.) She comes under command of Commander Manley, and brings home Midshipmen Foulk, Rogers, and Gilmore, also the remains of Master Richard A. Breck, which were buried at Amoy. The Admiral had received information of the death of Captain Thomas W. Killman, master of American bark *Masonic*, who had been stabbed by the steward of that vessel at Manila. The *Ashuelot* would inquire into the matter.

The Secretary of the Navy received the first information of the *Constitution* being aground in a cable despatch of Jan. 17, from B. F. Stevens, Esq., the efficient U. S. Despatch Agent, at London. He reported that a despatch from the Consul at Southampton announced the *Constitution* stranded in Swanage Bay. The Secretary immediately cabled for further facts, and a second despatch came the same day from the agent that the vessel was eight miles south of Poole, and that six tugs were attending her and hoped to float her. A third despatch same date advised that the British Admiralty had proffered every assistance. The following day, the 18th, Mr. Stevens cabled that the *Constitution* anchored the night before on Mother bank, and it was thought not much damage had been sustained. Swanage Bay is about due west from the Isle of Wight, and is remarkable for the strong currents which drive around Peveril point south of it and through it. It is on the coast of Dorset county.

The *Richmond* sailed from New York on Saturday, Jan. 11, for the Asiatic Station, via Gibraltar and the Suez Canal. She will take a direct course after passing the Canal, touching at the usual ports en route. List of officers: Captain, A. E. K. Benham; Lieutenant Commander, Lewis Clark; Lieutenants, C. S. Sperry, George G. Clay, Thomas H. Stevens, N. J. K. Patch, and Sidney H. May; Master, Henry McCrea; Ensigns, F. J. Milligan, Charles Laird, George H. Worcester, and Frank E. Beatty; Cadet Midshipmen, John G. Quinby, F. J. Sprague, Chas. N. Atwater, Thos. W. Ryan, Wm. C. Canfield, Allen G. Rogers, W. L. Todd, J. H. Hetherington, and A. C. Almy; Passed Assistant Surgeon, John F. Bransford; Assistant Surgeon, Clement Biddle; Assistant Paymaster, O. C. Tiffany; Chief Engineer, Charles H. Baker; Passed Assistant Engineers, Nathan P. Towne and Jno. T. Hannum; Assistant Engineers, W. L. Cathcart and E. T. Warburton; Cadet Engineers, F. J. Schell, H. W. Spangler, and John L. Gow; Captain of Marines, John H. Higbee; Second Lieutenant Marines, Randolph Dickens; Pay Officer's Clerk, C. C. Pearson; Boatswain, Josiah B. Aiken; Gunner, T. Benson Watkins; Carpenter, Josiah P. Carter; Sailmaker, Francis Bloom. Passengers: Lieutenant Frederick Singer, Cadet Engineers Gould H. Bull and R. S. Griffin, Pay Clerk W. H. Roach.

COMMANDER SELFRIDGE, in an official despatch, reports the arrival of the *Enterprise* at Gibraltar, Dec. 21. All well. She had a stormy passage and was "hove to" for 19 days off the Western Islands. She did not go to Madeira. A correspondent of the *Norfolk Landmark* gives an account of the voyage of the *Enterprise*. He says: "We found old Atlantic in one of his roughest moods, and had to battle against a head wind and high swells during the entire passage. Soon after fires were banked and the ship was run under reefed sails nearly the whole passage, occasionally resorting to steam to keep way against a head wind and sea, and to condense water for use on board. For twelve days we were continually under close reefed topsails, with fore storm staysails, and during the passage of thirty-five days we have not passed a single twenty-four hours without rain and heavy squalls, and not seldom has all hands been called to either reef or furl sail, preparing to be tossed around by a gale, and when it has left us it is in turn, either all hands make sail, stand by fore and main topmen to unfurl topsails, lay aft to the braces, or some one of the numerous calls that require every one to be at his post. On the 30th of November, as we were encountering a severe squall, the flying jibboom was carried away. The wreck was soon secured, and the shattered spar has been replaced by our carpenter. Several times the steam launch came near being torn from its davits and had to be secured by every brace, after which we had very fine weather for a few days, and then it came worse than ever. The passage being so long the ladies did not enjoy it very much. Commander T. O. Selfridge had his family on board, and they seemed very much alarmed at the bad weather and disagreeable passage; also they did not relish the grub very well. After we were favored by this fine weather we arrived at our destination very soon. We came in sight of Gibraltar on December 30, 1878, at 4 A.M., where we laid to, to await the breaking of the day, after which we steamed up to the Rock of Gibraltar. I will tell you how we spent Christmas. In the first place Commander T. O. Selfridge gave each mess three turkeys and a large cake and several other things to complete a dinner; then he had a long table set fore and aft the ship, after which the officers went around and had a look at each mess dinner; then at 12 o'clock, dinner was piped and we all had dinner, which every one seemed to enjoy; then there were cigars sent around to each and every man. After the smoking hour was over liberty was given the ship's company to go ashore—all who wished to visit the place. There was quite a large crowd that was glad of the opportunity, as two of the ship's boats were hauled away and the liberty party started for the rock."

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

##### ORDERED.

JAN. 18.—Master Downes L. Wilson, to duty at the Hydrographic Office on the 20th January.  
JAN. 20.—Mate J. M. Creighton, to the receiving ship *Passaic*, at Washington, on the 27th January.  
JAN. 21.—Lieutenant F. P. Gilmore, to duty at the Hydrographic Office on the 27th January.  
Commander Richard W. Meade, to command the *Vandalia*, at Boston, on the 28th January.  
Paymaster John Macmahon, to the *Vandalia* on the 28th Jan.  
JAN. 23.—Cadet Engineer F. H. Bailey, to duty at the Morgan Iron Works.

##### DETACHED.

JAN. 17.—Captain K. R. Breece, from special duty at Newport, R. I., and ordered to command the *Pennscola*, per steamer of January 30 from New York.  
Captain John Irwin, from the command of the *Pennscola*, and ordered to command the receiving ship *Independence*, at the Navy-yard, Mare Island.  
Ensign J. P. Underwood, from duty on the Coast Survey, and placed on sick leave.  
Mate John Oden'dhal, from duty on the Coast Survey, and placed on waiting orders.  
JAN. 18.—Lieutenant Wm. H. Emory, from the Naval Academy on the 1st February, and placed on waiting orders.  
Lieutenant George M. Totten, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Powhatan.  
Boatswain Edward Crissey, from the command of the tug *Rose*, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla.  
Boatswain James Heron, from the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla., and ordered to command the tug *Rose*.  
JAN. 20.—Chaplain John B. Van Meter, from duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 31st January.  
JAN. 21.—Commander Henry B. Robeson, from the command of the *Vandalia* on the 28th January, and placed on waiting orders.  
Lieutenant-Commander George F. F. Wilde, from the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 27th January, and ordered as executive of the *Vandalia* on the 28th January.  
Lieutenant-Commander A. G. Caldwell, from the *Vandalia* on the 28th January, and placed on waiting orders.  
Lieutenant Edward T. Strong, from the *Vandalia* on the 28th January, and placed on waiting orders.  
Lieutenant George E. Ide, from the Naval Observatory, and ordered to the *Vandalia* on the 28th January.  
Master H. P. McIntosh, from the Hydrographic Office on the 31st January, and granted six months' leave.  
Passed Assistant Paymaster J. Porter Loomis, from the *Vandalia* on the 28th January, and ordered to settle accounts.  
JAN. 22.—Lieutenant Bloomfield McIlvaine, from the *Marion*, and placed on sick leave.  
Master Wm. H. Schuetz, from the *Michigan*, and ordered to the Powhatan.  
JAN. 23.—Assistant Surgeon L. B. Baldwin, from the *Palos* on the 12th November, and placed on waiting orders.  
Passed Assistant Engineer W. L. Nicoll, from the Naval Academy on the 28th February, and granted six months' leave from March 1.

##### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Commander Theo. F. Kane, commanding the *Alliance*, European Station, for three months after detachment from that vessel.  
To Chaplain John B. Van Meter, for six months from February 1.

##### LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Lieutenant-Commander C. M. Anthony has been extended two weeks.  
The leave of Master F. W. Nabor has been extended six months.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General for the week ending January 23, 1879:  
John Anthony Casey, marine, January 13, 1879, Hospital, Norfolk, Va.  
John Riley, marine, January 15, Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C.

#### CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

##### DETACHED.

JAN. 17.—First Lieutenant E. R. Robinson, from the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, New York, and ordered to command the marine guard of the *Vandalia*.

(Contributed to the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### COMPASS EQUIPMENT OF IRON SHIPS.

The subject of compass equipment of iron ships has not received the attention necessary to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion. The loss of the U. S. S. *Huron* is a lamentable proof of this.

The once trustworthy compass—that emblem of constancy—can no more be relied upon, and the more cautious of masters of merchant vessels pin their faith, almost entirely, to the three celebrated is: "lead, longitude and lookout." It has long been generally acknowledged that the chief source of deviation of the compasses of iron vessels consists in the polarized state of the hull, caused by the violent hammering and other mechanical processes undergone by the material under construction. Each rivet in the hull is, in fact, a magnet, and, roughly speaking, the whole ship may be considered a magnet. According to the amount, therefore, of this polarity, and according to the distance of the needle (which is, itself, but a delicate magnet) will it be affected—will it be deviated from the true magnetic meridian of the earth.

Of course, the masses of iron in the ship will always be affected by induction—they will always be inductive magnets under the influence of the permanent magnetism of the earth.

It is the long continuance on the ship, conjoined to that of the mechanical processes she has to undergo in the yard, that converts her into a magnet; and it is, in fact, this acquired polarity which has such influence on the compass-needle. It is dangerous in two ways: from its amount and from its inconsistency.

A needle placed a few inches above the level of the deck would, in most cases, be beyond the influence of the induced magnetism; but the polarity acquired by a ship during building may, after having her compasses adjusted, be in a great measure lost in a very short time. To go away with acquired polarity, it is proposed to take advantage of a certain well ascertained, but comparatively little regarded phenomenon in electro-magnetism.

The polarity of soft and ordinary iron of any size can be instantly reversed by a galvanic current. Take, for instance, a common horse-shoe magnet. This is, of course, simply a cylindrical iron bolt, bent into the form of a horse-shoe, and surrounded by a number of long coils of copper wire insulated with silk; all the ends of the coils on each are united together, and each end is connected with a battery. While the current is passing through the coils the projecting poles can hold up a soft iron keeper with enormous force. A cessation of the current brings with it the annihilation of the electro-magnetic force or rather power.

If, previous to the current passing through the coils, either the soft iron keeper or the electro-magnet had been polarized, this polarization will be found to have been destroyed, that is to say, the iron will have been brought back into an almost neutral state. It is true, that if the current be only gradually stopped, there may be some remaining magnetism left in the iron; but it has been shown that it may be reduced to almost nothing.

Looking at a ship intended to undergo this operation, we should thus see, at both stem and stern, a cylinder coiled around with insulated wire, while in the middle, or at one side of the ship, would be an ordinary battery; or we might look upon the ship, metaphorically, as an enormous keeper to a horse-shoe electro-magnet, with one pole at the stem the other at the stern, and the battery in the centre. It is evident that with such ready means of destroying induced polarity it would no longer be necessary to attend to the position in which an iron ship is built. I. O. B.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NAVAL INSTITUTE.—At the regular meeting of the Naval Institute, held at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Jan. 9, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Rear-Admiral John Rodgers; Vice President, Commodore F. A. Parker; Secretary, Lieut. J. C. Soley; Corresponding Secretary, Prof. C. E. Munroe; Treasurer, Chief Engineer J. P. Sprague; Lieut.-Commander A. D. Brown, P. A. Engineer G. H. Kearny, and Lieut. J. W. Miller, Committee on Publications.

The secretary reported that ten essays had been received in competition for the prize which had been forwarded to the judges. Also the receipt of a handsome volume from the author, Captain John Ericsson, as a contribution to the library of the institute. The corresponding secretary reported five corresponding societies since last January: Royal United Service Institution, London; Association des Propriétaires des Appareils à Vapeur, Paris; Société des Ingénieurs Civils, Paris; American Geographical Society, New York; U. S. Military Service Institute, West Point; and also the organization of the Washington branch of the institute with 120 members. The treasurer reported cash on hand, \$507.34; dues from members, \$555; total membership, 245; number dropped (two years in arrears), 19. A most interesting paper was read by Prof. J. Russell Soley, entitled "Operations of the Fleet before Tripoli, 1804." We commence the publication of this paper this week.

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**REFERENCES BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT.**

General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.;  
Admiral David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; General  
Geo. Sykes, U. S. Army; Brig.-Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army,  
Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army;  
Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army; Mrs. Admiral  
Bahlgren, Washington, D. C.; General S. D. Sturges, U. S.  
Army.

**VANITY FAIR** for Meerschaum and Cigarette. See Advertisement.

The expressive, dignified and yet forcible language  
in which Gen. Sherman suggests that the last lucu-  
bration of Mr. Schurz requires no notice from Gen.  
Sheridan must be entirely satisfactory to the Lieu-  
tenant General. Mr. Schurz, on his part, may be  
safely left with the coveted possession of the last  
word in the controversy.

The temporary success which attended the desper-  
ate outbreak of the Cheyennes at Fort Robinson is  
already ended. According to accounts, not official  
at this writing, but quite credible, the fugitives  
have been again overhauled by Capt. Wells, and  
most of them were killed in the resulting fight, or else  
captured. Thus for a second time the endurance  
and energy of the troop have overcome all obstacles,  
in pursuing these dethroned warriors.

The proposition to create the office of Field Mar-  
shal in the Army of the United States, for the special  
accommodation and emolument of Gen. Grant, is the  
most ludicrously preposterous of all the Army legis-  
lative schemes yet proposed, and would be so re-  
garded, we are sure, most of all by Gen. Grant him-  
self. The fifth wheel of a coach falls far short of  
typifying a field marshalship in an Army of 25,000  
men, which has already a general and a lieutenant-  
general, and from which it is proposed to cut off 333  
subordinate officers on the plea of economy. A field  
marshal would further diminish the little unity of  
system that the Army now has, and would be a foist-  
ing of foreign customs into a country where they are  
not wanted. Such offices may do very well in for-  
eign lands, but—no field marshal in ours, please.

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THE proprietors of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL seek,  
during the coming year, to accomplish two things for the benefit  
of subscribers: First. To very considerably increase the  
amount of interesting matter included in the weekly issues of  
the paper, and next, to furnish this matter at a price less than  
they are compelled to charge, with the present circulation  
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will not limit themselves to the largest number, as additional  
subscriptions will be received at the same rate.

**THE ARMY IN CONGRESS.**

THE annual struggle over the Army, in Congress,  
is now evidently at hand, and on its eve it is  
worth noting that during many successive years all  
legislative schemes for crippling the military estab-  
lishment have failed. The basis of 25,000 enlisted  
men, besides the Signal Corps, with a supply of  
officers, in line and staff, adequate to the great geo-  
graphical surface over which this force is scattered,  
was established in 1874. No Congress and no session  
of Congress has since been held without an effort to  
seriously reduce this Army; and in every instance  
this effort has, after a hard struggle, been defeated.  
Should the BURNSIDE army scheme be now over-  
thrown, it will not be for any lack of good points in  
Army reform, but because it attempted Army reduc-  
tion. It nominally sanctions the maximum of 25,000  
enlisted men; but, with injurious ingenuity, it has  
sought to get rid of three hundred and thirty-three  
officers, and has made a merit of this misplaced in-  
dustry, as if such sappings of the military strength,  
under the guise of pruning, were commendable. The  
friends of the officers and corps most likely to suffer  
have rallied in such force as to menace the destruc-  
tion of the whole bill.

It is true that a new bill is preparing, which seeks  
to take out of the Army many more officers than the  
BURNSIDE bill; but the history of past legislation is  
against the probability of wholesale reductions. Gen.  
SHERIDAN well said, only a short time ago, that our  
little Army was doing the work for which any other  
country would supply 60,000 men; the soldier is  
made a Jack-at-all-trades, instead of trying to pre-  
serve his soldierly spirit by soldierly duties. Yet we  
find Congress often besought to reduce the Army,  
instead of doubling it. And again, in reorganization,  
in place of trying these gradual processes of transfer  
and condensation which, without disturbing the  
general well-being and equilibrium of the Army,  
would, under the guidance of high experience, draw  
away a surplus from one part of the military estab-  
lishment to strengthen other parts, and so improve  
the whole, reformers try to tear departments to pieces  
and to "telescope" regiments, as a sign of activity.

These efforts have of late always defeated them-  
selves. We regret, however, the loss of two such  
representatives as Messrs. SCHLEICHER and WILLIAMS  
—members of that little band of Congressmen who  
have always boldly voted against their party in be-  
half of their country, in Army matters, and to whom  
the escape of the Army from severe crippling has  
often been due. In the Senate, so far as we are  
aware, the Army is still strong, although there is no  
knowing what the next Congress will bring.

The past few years of Army legislation show that  
nothing is more perilous to the Army than popu-  
lar military stagnation. Up to 1874 the Army had  
been continually dropping, dropping, in numbers,  
until it was doubtful when it would touch bottom—  
perhaps Congress might have got the Army down  
even to the Sun's 10,000 men, thereby forcing that  
paper to lower its stern ultimatum to 5,000 or 3,000.  
But it so happened that a series of Indian wars  
brought the Army into quick sympathy with the  
people—the Sioux war; the Nez Percé; the Bannock  
and Shoshone; and the Northern Cheyenne. Mingled  
with these were the savage raids of the Lipan and  
Kickapoo Indians into Texas, the general uneasiness  
on the Rio Grande, and the labor riots. All these  
defeated reduction, first, because the need of the  
Army was shown, and, secondly, because the feeling  
of the people was stirred.

Indeed, whoever looks beyond mere trickery and  
trading to see why legislation takes its actual shape,  
will note that the presence of military feeling in the  
nation helps, as its absence hurts Army legislation.  
Thus, in an indirect but potent way, even the popu-  
lar rifle shooting mania of the past few years has  
helped the Army, because it has encouraged a spirit  
akin to the military spirit, of which the Army is the  
supreme embodiment. So, this new militia move-  
ment, whatever may become of it—whether Congress  
shall set it back or set it on its feet—has probably  
given the Army some influential friends in quarters  
where it needs friends, who may be of service to it in  
its own legislation.

And we may here note, by the way, the words of  
encouragement and welcome which prominent and  
representative Army officers have had for this militia  
movement, which, indeed, was planned by an officer  
of the Regular Army. Its delegates, assembling in  
New York City, the Headquarters of the Division of  
the Atlantic, comprising the Departments of the East,  
the South, and the Gulf, including all the States east  
of the Mississippi except Illinois, and Louisiana and  
Arkansas beyond, were personally greeted by the  
Division Commander, Major-Gen. HANCOCK, and his  
staff, while Major-Gen. SCHOFIELD and other Army  
officers sent letters of counsel. Narrow minds might  
have suspected in this movement a rival for the  
Army; but most Army officers are not men of narrow  
minds. Now, whether this plan succeeds or fails, no  
one can reproach the Army with having sneered at it  
or put obstacles to its working out whatever good it  
has or thinks it has; and the members of last week's  
convention, with those whom they represent, under-  
stand this fact quite as well as anybody else.

The Army is naturally the friend and advocate of  
all honest and intelligent efforts to increase the mili-  
tary spirit of the country. It cannot be injured by  
them; it must always remain first and highest. No  
citizen soldiers, called by whatever name, can dis-  
charge the functions of a professional soldiery; but  
the more citizen soldiers there are, the more citizens  
of influence there will be to appreciate the urgent  
need of a far larger force of professional soldiery than  
we now have. The Army's main fear is of a lack of  
military interest among the people; and it flirts that  
too many efforts like the present wither away despite  
all welcome and encouragement. But, succeed or  
fail, they are grist to the Army mill. A great rifle  
shooting movement is started at Creedmoor; it revo-  
lutionizes the militia and saves it from impending  
decay. But the marksmanship of the Army at once  
improves ten, twenty, thirty per cent.; where for years  
the Army could not get ammunition to practice with,  
an increased issue is allowed; as private gun makers  
excel in their weapons, somehow the regulation in-  
fantry arm also records higher proof of accuracy,  
efficiency, and workmanship; presently, we find  
Army teams carrying off laurels at Creedmoor itself.  
Suppose such a team should next year earn "the  
world's military championship," would the popular  
rifle movement have harmed or helped the Army?

So, in the new militia bill, to be found in another column of the JOURNAL—a bill that we could not wholly approve in its present shape—we see evidences of the greatly needed revival of military enthusiasm in the people. Suppose it fails—must not its consistent supporters urge Congress to enlarge the Army, as, in their view, the next best way to supply the need on which their movement is based—namely, that of a larger national military force? On the other hand, if it succeeds, a central provision is a fivefold increase in the distribution of ordnance stores to the Army. Will that increase give more or less work to the Army officers now employed in the distribution? We observe another provision for annual encampments, under national supervision and supply, which may interest the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments; still another for the detail of Army officers as militia inspectors; yet another for the detail of Army officers as division, brigade, or regimental adjutants of the proposed new national organization; and considering the possible number of such places, and that no officer need accept one unless as he likes, they might become important to a retired or "reserved" list, as they would carry full active pay and allowances. In short, whatever national legislation is undertaken to encourage the national military element, it will in some way be of use to the Army, which must always guide and shape national military undertakings.

Turning again to the Army legislation now expected of Congress, we hold that the disheartening theory that reduction has "got to come," is without any foundation; and nothing could so precipitate reduction as making the injurious and needless admission that safe reduction is possible. The country needs a large increase of the Army; and it cannot afford to do without the services of a single officer who has proved himself of value.

#### A NOTEWORTHY CAREER.

WERE we called upon for that name, among living Americans, which has been most intimately and conspicuously associated with the American merchant marine, through its chequered career of radiance and eclipses, one of the first to occur to us would be the name of Robert B. Forbes. Accordingly, we have examined with interest and pleasure, as well as profit, the book entitled *Personal Reminiscences*, which, charming in its garrulity and valuable in its recorded fruits of a fine career, Mr. Forbes, in the autumn of a busy life, has found leisure to compile for his friends and for the public.

Born in 1804, of Scotch origin, at Jamaica Plain, a suburb of Boston, he first crossed the Atlantic, at the age of six, in a topsail schooner, with his mother and brother, to join his father in Europe. They were captured by a British ship off Marseilles; and, as a foretaste of his career of incident and adventure, before he got back in 1813, not yet nine years old, he had been captured three times, had been through a naval battle, had learned French at a school in France, and had known what a storm at sea means.

At the age of 12, he, with his brother, began business life in the store of S. Cabot and Jas. and T. H. Perkins, jr., on Foster's Wharf, Boston, and shortly after, when he had just turned 13, his uncle, Thos. H. Perkins, senior, found him one day on his usual admiring visit to the shipping, and said: "Well, Ben, which of these ships do you intend to go in?" "I am ready to go in this one!" said the lad, promptly, pointing to the first one at hand, the *Canton Packet*; and go he did before the mast, within a few days, and so began his career.

Should we attempt to follow this career, it would require the transfer of a large part of the stout volume to our columns—we should go over the world again and again, on many voyages to China, on voyages to Falmouth, to Hamburg, to Smyrna, to Buenos Ayres, California, and the Sandwich Islands; we should record hundreds of curious experiences and adventures, mercantile and marine, in many countries, by sea and land; we should see the author rising from before the mast through the grades to be captain, and having also an intimate personal connection with American commerce in many lands and climes. Of course, we need hardly add that many historic and national events also cluster around his career. Capt. Forbes commanded the *Jamestown*, which in 1847 carried supplies to the famine-stricken people of Ireland. One of the most cherished remembrances of Capt. Forbes must be his gallant conduct in the fatal collision between the steamship *Europa* and the *Charles Bartlett*, while a passenger on the former. The Liverpool

Shipwreck and Humane Society and the Massachusetts Humane Society gave him medals in "admiration of his bold and meritorious conduct in leaping overboard at the risk of his own life, to save the survivors of the *Charles Bartlett*."

At the age of 16, Capt. Forbes had filled a man's place as third mate; at 20, he was promoted to a command; at 23, he abandoned seafaring life as a profession; at 36, he was at the head of the largest American house in China. The *Midas*, R. B. Forbes, Edith, Massachusetts, Iron Witch, Alpha, Nankin and other vessels will recall the active efforts of Capt. Forbes in the way of ship construction, rig and management. The Humane Societies, Snug Harbors, Sailors' Homes and Nautical Schools attest his energy and philanthropy in other directions. At the opening of the war, he founded a Coast Guard, of which he was Commodore, and for which he received the thanks and acknowledgments of the Government; and he rendered much service in the examination and appraisal of vessels for Government use. But we only hurriedly refer to these incidents, in illustration of his active career. He has found time for lectures, many articles on nautical and public affairs in the public press, and even relaxation for poetry, mostly of a light and humorous sort, which tells some stories very neatly and effectively in the present volume; and at the end of the book we find a list of upwards of seventy vessels, of various sorts and sizes, built under his order or supervision, or in which he has had an interest. We are surely entitled to describe this a noteworthy career—a career, let us hope, still far from being rounded out to completion.

In these days, when the Life-saving Service has come, in one way or another, to be almost a sensation of the hour, we are glad to call special attention to Lieut. Lyle's valuable report on life saving apparatus, guns, and projectiles, which appears as Appendix P in the annual report of the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, and also in a separate volume. This report, which forms a stout volume, covers the subjects of rifle and smooth bore guns and projectiles, with recommendations and instructions; bronze life saving guns; gun carriages; powder and cartridge bags, sabots, friction primers and implements; shot lines; faking boxes; firing grounds; velocity and force of wind; Manby's apparatus; French life-saving apparatus; the Parrott mortar; Hunt's projectile; Chandler's anchor shot; life saving rockets; and tests of bronze. Fifty four plates illustrate the whole subject clearly.

It should be remembered that the duty of which this volume is the fruit was assigned specifically to Lieut. Lyle, "in addition to his regular duties;" he modestly says, in his introduction, "no claims of great originality are made, as this apparatus, like the Parrott patent, is a direct evolution from the system of Captain Manby, which dates back to the beginning of the present century. The advances which have been made during the past year are the result of careful study and conscientious experiment." We would call attention, however, to the fact that this is but one of the many instances in which the Army and Navy are of continued service to the country totally outside of that limited field of offensive and defensive warfare with which they seem to be wholly associated in the minds of Congressmen, when questions come up of reorganization and annual appropriation.

The principal editorial in the New York *Herald* of Jan. 23, is headed "True Economy—Reform the Diplomatic Service and Strengthen the Army and Navy." Its subject is the reform of the diplomatic service. It concludes as follows: "This is a reform that could be made with intelligence and energy. It would be useful and popular, and a much better business than the proposals to destroy the Army and cripple the Navy, which, although pressed under the name of economy, are really the lowest form of demagoguery."

In a second article on the same subject the *Herald* urges that the law be changed so as to allow us to send Army and Navy officers abroad as consuls where their education and experience would be of advantage. It is false economy, the *Herald* forcibly argues, to tinker at the Army and Navy in the way Congressmen did last session, and to cut down the salaries or the rank of the men who served us during the war is an outrage. It warns "our Southern friends" that objection to the Army because its officers took part in the last war and because we have not restored the Southern officers to the rank they abandoned, is the revival of sectionalism in its worst form.

We have a good Army, it continues, in point of character, but it is too small. Besides our present requirements "we need the Army as a nucleus and a nursery in the event of war. We should have a large and intelligent staff, good artillery and engineer corps. From these, soldiers fit for the highest commands can be detailed to drill infantry and cavalry." "The same argument applies to the Navy. Even as a matter of economy we cannot spend money to better advantage than in keeping our ships in good condition and not allowing them to rot in dockyards."

THE object of the Army Mutual Aid Association, of which we have given an account, is, as we have already explained, to obtain the benefits of life insurance directly, in an economical manner as possible, and without the risks which experience of recent years has shown to be inseparable from insurance in many companies. The plan is exceedingly simple, and by the provisions of the articles of incorporation, there can never be any large accumulation of funds over and above what is necessary to pay two or three death claims and current expenses. It is also to be observed, investment of the funds of the Association is confined to Government securities. It is designed that the medical examination of applicants for membership shall be as searching and strict as that of the best and most conservative life insurance companies. An impartial and faithful application of this policy must insure a selection of good risks, and a just and equal distribution of the burdens of insurance among the insured. There should be a similar Association for the Navy, or one for both Army and Navy.

It is now announced that Mr. Hewitt proposes to immediately present the Army Appropriation Bill for the action of the House, with the provisions for reduction and reorganization which we published last week. It was not a synopsis that we published, but the proposed amendments entire, with the exception that it was incorrect to say that it was not proposed to make any change in the Aides D. C. Mr. Hewitt proposes to give the General three aides, to be selected from officers of the rank of Colonel or under; the Lieut. General three, from officers below the rank of Lieut. Colonel; Major Generals two each, below the rank of Major; and Brig. Generals two each, below the rank of Captain; each aide below the rank of Colonel having the pay, emoluments and allowances of one grade higher. The acceptance by the members of the next two graduating classes at the Military Academy of \$750 and mileage, is to render them ineligible to appointment for two years. There is a reduction of ten Majors in the Pay Department.

We are not surprised to learn that the short but comprehensive treatise of Capt. Barrett, U. S. N., on "Dead Reckoning" has passed to a second edition. To thorough ability Capt. Barrett joins the advantage of unusual opportunity and experience; for it is to him, that, under the orders of the Navy Department, the greater part of volunteer naval officers present themselves for examination on their professional qualifications. Hence he has been led to observe exactly where their shortcomings are, and to prepare the kind of information which is needed. We are glad also to observe that this little pamphlet is the forerunner of a work on navigation, from the same competent and excellent hand.

MR. J. G. BLAINE, on Wednesday, in the Senate, made an attack on the officers of the Navy, proposing to "dispense with surplus officers," and thereby to save enough on the salary list to pay subsidies for steam lines! Mr. Blaine "did not intend to reflect upon the gallant corps of the Navy"—he only wanted to send a good many of them adrift in the world, without livelihood. This project, preposterous in itself, had so little to do either with the Naval Appropriation bill then under discussion, or with the free ship bill which was not under discussion, that objections came upon all sides, and for the moment the attack was abandoned.

THE Pension Arrears bill, which has passed both Houses of Congress by vast majorities, still awaits the action of the President. This bill removes what is known as the five years' limitation clause of section 4709 of the Revised Statutes. The existing law declares that all pensions for de wounds or disea

since March 4, 1861, shall commence from the death or the discharge from the service—*provided*, the application has been filed within five years thereafter; otherwise, the pension begins at the date of filing the last evidence necessary to establish it. The pending bill destroys this proviso, and thus puts all pensions on the same footing. There have been all sorts of estimates as to the amount the bill would require for the payment of the arrears—some estimates running as high as \$100,000,000. The actual decision will be made by the President—either signing it, vetoing it, or allowing it to become a law by doing nothing for ten days—before this number of the JOURNAL reaches the greater part of its readers.

The last news from the terrible gun-bursting accident to the *Thunderer* indicates that the possible cause, to which we asked attention, at the time, in the JOURNAL of Jan. 11, has turned out to be the real cause. We pointed out the remark of Chief Engineer King in regard to the liability of the guns in the *Thunderer's* fore turret to prematurely explode, by reason of the depression of the gun in her new hydraulic loading gear. It is now said that the ball must have slipped down at least six inches from the cartridge, and that the fracture occurred in this space. However, as there are two theories still held, we think that official reports should be awaited before jumping to a conclusion.

The Secretary of War reports, Dec. 9, 1878, to the Senate, that of the east wing of the building for the State, War, and Navy Departments the portion (one-half) assigned to the War Department will be ready for occupancy in April next. He asks an appropriation of \$50,000 to fit up the various offices.

#### CONGRESS.

The Naval Appropriation bill came up for consideration in the Senate Jan. 20, and in explanation of the bill Mr. Windom said as it passed the House it appropriated \$14,018,468.95. The total amount of estimates was \$14,187,381.45. The appropriations of the Navy for the present fiscal year were \$14,152,603.70. The Senate Committee on Appropriations added to the House bill \$38,500, making the total as reported to the Senate \$14,191,103.70. The items of increase made by the Senate Committee were as follows:

For the purchase of postage stamps	\$5,000
For clothing and bedding destroyed	1,300
For gratuities and medals	500
For repairs to the dome for the telescope at the Observatory	300
For changes in controlling derricks, etc.	500
For provisions and clothing, water for ships, etc.	75,000
For the purchase of a testing machine and contingencies	4,000

Total.....\$86,500

The House appropriated \$1,025,000 for the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, and the Senate Committee increased the amount to \$1,100,000.

All the amendments reported by the committee above mentioned were agreed to without debate.

Mr. Whyte, of Maryland, submitted an amendment to increase the pay of the plumber at the Naval Academy from \$2 to \$3 per day, and Mr. Allison, of Iowa, submitted an amendment grading the assistant astronomers at the Naval Observatory at \$1,500, \$1,700 and \$2,100 per annum, according to the length of term of service, but they were ruled out on points of order that they increased the appropriation.

Mr. Blaine offered the following amendments to the bill:

That a board of three naval officers from either the active or the retired list be appointed by the President, whose duty it shall be to consider and report to the next session of Congress the number of officers, line, staff, and warrant, needed for a Navy with 7,500 men, and that until hereafter directed by law promotion in the Navy above the grade of ensign shall cease. And further, that the same board of officers shall consider and report whether any of the present Navy-yards may be dispensed with, and whether in any other way the expenses of the naval establishment may be decreased without impairing its efficiency; also, that from and after July 1, 1883, only such a number of the graduates of the United States Naval Academy in any one year shall be entitled to appointment as midshipmen in the Navy as are required to fill vacancies, to be determined by the Academic Board on the basis of their standing in the graduating class; and if the number of midshipmen shall not have been previously fixed and limited by law it shall be the duty of the Secretary to so fix and limit it on or before July 1, 1883.

Mr. Blaine said that with 7,500 men in the Navy we had 2,000 officers, one to every three men; the British navy, with 491 vessels and 60,000 men, had 4,900 officers; the French navy, with nearly as many vessels, 1,539 line officers. England had two, and France three great navy-yards, and each two subordinate ones, while we on six degrees of coast latitude had seven Navy-yards. The pay of officers on the active list was over \$3,222,000; retired list, \$645,000, while the pay of petty officers and seamen was but \$2,300,000 per annum, showing, of course, the top-heavy condition of the service. From the Naval Academy we were turning out annually an average of fifty officers. Now he asked that from and after 1883 the graduates from the Naval Academy should not be entitled to commissions except upon merit and to fill any vacancy which may at the time exist. Pass the law now and every cadet upon entering the Academy would understand that his entering into the service depended upon his standing at the graduation.

Mr. Blaine having had his little speech, did not press his amendments, and the bill was passed by the Senate without them.

Mr. Blaine then introduced a bill to regulate promotions in the Navy, which was the same as his proposed amendments. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Conference Committee reported the Military Academy Appropriation bill. The differences were divided, and the reports were concurred in and the bill passed.

The House referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs the proposal of the King of Spain to confer on Capt. Joseph Irish, of the U. S. Marine Service, the Grand Cross of Merit.

The Senate adopted a resolution directing the Committee on Indian Affairs to inquire into the circumstances which led to the recent escape of Cheyenne Indians from Fort Sill, and their subsequent slaughter by the United States forces charged with their custody.

The following bills, etc., were reported upon adversely and postponed indefinitely: S. 1098. To transfer Paymaster Robert Burton Rodney from retired list to active list of Navy; S. 750. To provide for experiments and the purchase of movable torpedoes for military and naval defence.

The following bills, petitions, etc., have been introduced and referred to the appropriate committees:

S. 1638. To appoint Spruille Braden an ensign in U. S. Navy.

S. 1639. To authorize purchase of a life size portrait of the late Major General George H. Thomas.

S. 1647. Making appropriation for purchase of Fort Clark, Texas.

Senate Resolution, that 1,500 copies Army Regulations of 1863—500 copies for use of Senate and 1,000 for use of House.

H. R. 3344. To authorize the appointment of apothecaries as warrant officers in the Navy.

H. R. 3336. Making an appropriation of \$75,000 for continuing the work on the New London Navy-yard.

H. R. 3380. To authorize the President to appoint James Shields, of Missouri, a brigadier-general in the U. S. Army on the retired list.

H. R. 3385. To restore Thomas C. Bowen to the active list of the Navy.

H. R. 3339. To limit to two years the time within which prosecutions for the offence of desertion from the Army of the United States shall be commenced.

H. R. 3580. To abolish the Bureau of Military Justice, and for a more efficient and economical administration of justice in the Army. Repeals on and after March 1, 1879, so much of the act of Congress approved June 30, 1864, creating and putting in force what is known as the Bureau of Military Justice, and so much of the act approved July 28, 1866, as provides for the continuance of the said Bureau of Military Justice. That on and after said 1st of March, 1879, the President of the United States shall appoint, by and with the consent of the Senate, an officer of the Regular Army, not below the rank of colonel, and who shall be learned in military law, to be Judge-Advocate-General of the Army of the United States, and the said Judge-Advocate-General shall have general supervision of the proceedings of courts-martial, courts of inquiry, and military commissions, and shall report on the findings of all such tribunals to the Secretary of War, and through him to the President of the United States. The said Judge-Advocate-General shall also be attached to and form a part of the staff of the General of the Army. He shall have authority, by and with the approval of the Secretary of War and General of the Army, to detail or assign officers of the line of the Regular Army, known for their knowledge of military law, and of suitable rank, to perform the duties of judge-advocate, and conduct the proceedings in courts-martial, courts of inquiry, and military commissions. The said Judge-Advocate-General shall receive the pay and emoluments of a colonel of cavalry, and shall be provided with suitable quarters for the accommodation of his clerical force, and for the care and protection of the archives of his office. He shall be allowed one chief clerk at a salary of \$2,000 a year, and two clerks at salaries of \$1,500 a year each.

H. R. 3587. Authorizing the President to appoint George W. Crawford, of Alabama, a second Lieutenant in the Army.

H. R. 3587. To equalize the bounties of soldiers who served in the late war for the Union.

H. R. 3588. To retire Adolph Von Laettwitz, 1st Lieutenant 3d Cavalry, with the rank and pay of a mounted captain.

H. R. 3583. To restore Commander Robert Boyd, U. S. N., to his original position in the Navy Register.

H. R. 3580. To regulate and define the rank of the staff of the Marine Corps.

H. R. 3585. For the relief of C. W. Abbott, Pay Director, and W. H. Barry, Assistant Paymaster, U. S. Navy.

H. R. 3583. For the relief of Lieut. Wm. Everett, U. S. N.

H. R. 3592. Authorizing the retirement of Brevet Major-Gen. Wm. A. Averill, U. S. Army, with the rank and pay of a brigadier-general.

H. R. 3588. For the relief of E. D. Wheeler, late Lieutenant U. S. Artillery.

H. R. 3590. For the protection of widows and orphans and heirs at law of officers of the U. S. Army.

H. R. 3579. For the relief of Richard C. Duryea, late captain 1st U. S. Artillery.

The Senate referred to Committee on Military Affairs letters and papers from Secretary of War in regard to establishment of a military post in vicinity of El Paso, Texas, and recommending appropriation of \$40,000 for the purpose.

The Religious Society of Friends in Pennsylvania, have presented, through Mr. O'Neill, a memorial to the House, remonstrating against the transfer of the management of the Indians from the Interior to the War Department. Similar memorials from the "Friends" of New Jersey and Delaware have been presented.

Petitions have been presented in Congress of certain seamen of U. S. S. *Pumas*, at Port Royal, S. C., for increase of pay and rates; of G. L. Dyer, master, U. S. Navy, to be restored to proper position on Naval Register in the line of promotion; of Master W. S. Wood, U. S. Navy, to be restored to his proper rank next after W. P. Ray, master, U. S. N.; of H. O. Ritterhouse, U. S. N., to be advanced to his proper rank in Navy. Also the memorial of Henry Erben, U. S. N., to be allowed to appear before proper naval board of officers for examination for promotion.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1879.

ANOTHER week has passed without any action by either House of Congress upon the joint commission Army bill.

During an effort of your correspondent to find out what were the chances for getting up the bill, he inquired of a distinguished Senator who has always taken a lively interest in the Army, as to the cause of the delay. The Senator replied with a smile as follows: "The fate of a bill before Congress depends altogether upon how it is managed by the person having it in charge. It takes an old stager, in fact, a very old stager, to know how to combat all the efforts that are made by the opponents of a bill to prevent its coming up. Now, in the Senate, my friend Burnside has given way on several occasions out of pure forbearance and a desire to accommodate, and the chances are that the opponents of the bill will be able to stave off any action upon it until it will be too late to do any thing during this short session." And after a short pause, and with a smile that reached the dimensions of a laugh, he continued: "I cannot help admiring the great tact shown by the Army officers who are opposed to the bill, in the way they have managed their fight. They dwell particularly upon the unconstitutional parts of the bill, and of of the giving of too much power to General Sherman, and taking away the powers that the Constitution gives to the President and the Secretary of War, etc., etc. In fact I have never seen such solicitude expressed for the Constitution before. Now this is all talk, but it has had the effect to divert the attention from the parts of the bill which are really so very objectionable—to the Staff Corps particularly—to portions of the bill which can be made to appear so obnoxious to a majority of Congress that there might be little chance for it. It was a great mistake," continued the Senator, "for the commission to put into their bill all that portion concerning the regulations for the Army; for there was nothing in the bill of last year which established the commission which gave authority to do any thing more than to report, by bill or otherwise, a plan for the reorganization of the Army, in which they were to be governed by reasons of 'efficiency and economy,' and I do not think it was the intention to have the commission go into the subject

of the regulations for the government of the Army at all. The opponents of the bill know very well that with a great many members of Congress—particularly the Southern ones—General Sherman is not very popular, and any thing in the Army bill that would—really or apparently—give him any additional powers, would not meet with favor.

"But really there is no additional power conferred upon General Sherman, for he is not really the 'General' of the Army. The Constitution says that the President shall be the 'Commander-in-chief' of the Army. This is synonymous with General, and Lieutenant-General is the highest grade that can be properly given to any officer in the United States, when the Constitution makes the President the General of the Army. In 1798 Congress passed a bill conferring upon General Washington the rank of Lieutenant-General. Washington at first hesitated about accepting, and it required considerable urging on the part of President Adams to make him do so. Congress again, just before the death of Washington, was about to consider a bill to create the rank of General for him. But Mr. Adams, who was consulted about the matter, said that as the Constitution made the President the Commander-in-chief, which was the synonym for General of the Army, it would be absurd to confer that rank upon any other person. This was considered a proper reason for not presenting the bill in Congress.

"And apropos to this it must be remembered that in 1855, when Congress passed a bill to recognize the great services of General Scott, it authorized the rank of Lieutenant-General, *by brevet only*, for the reason that it was not thought advisable to give to any officer as high a rank as that which had been held by General Washington.

"As long as the Constitution remains as it is the President must be the General of the Army, and he cannot delegate his authority as Commander-in-chief to any other person."

Thus spoke the Senator, whose opinion upon military matters is sought as often, if not oftener, than that of any other man in Congress, and those who are interested in the Army bill can make a note on't and get all the consolation they can therefrom. Gen. Banning displays no particular anxiety about the bill. Like General Burnside, he feels that he has done simply his duty in presenting the bill in the House, and that it must take care of itself should it ever come up.

EBWITT.

#### THE BURNSIDE ARMY BILL.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* publishes an interview with Gen. W. Hazen, in which he is reported as saying of the Burnside Bill among other things:

The main force of the opposition to the bill will come from the staff, since the bill stirs up to effect a thorough change in a portion of it, made necessary by the present lights on military subjects, and this opposition will be united and concentrated.

These changes have already taken place in all other good armies of the world with the same struggle and resistance that will take place in our own, while on account of our democratic systems, our staff will have a much more effective field for work than any of them. That it should resist these changes is perfectly natural since it will affect its members personally, and no body of men ever gave up willingly the advantages of place and power, and it would be unreasonable to expect it now. But the undue advantages they have for maintaining these prerogatives ought to be understood, while the bill only proposes to equalize them in the whole Army. They are able and cultivated men; have seen this contest coming for years, and have prepared for it, while all their stations being in Washington, the seat of legislation, or in cities, the centres of the press, they have facilities for doing both, which it is perfectly natural they should attempt to exercise, while the Army itself, the members of which are friends of the reform, are stationed in the remote and frozen Territories, and cannot be heard, and who are also known to possess great delicacy in speaking out upon these subjects. Even if they could be heard, the gentlemen of the staff by long acquaintance, contact and friendship can impress their views and wishes both upon Congress and the press with a facility and power which the Army cannot hope to do.

For the years they have seen this question looming up before them, to be met sooner or later, they have been preparing their arguments, which are already beginning to appear as pamphlets and editorials, and it is not strange, with these early expressions in print, that we see it published and believe that "the Army opposes the bill," because the staff, about the only representatives of the Army seen and known, oppose it, just as, at the beginning of the war, it appeared that all the Army was joining the Rebellion, because the conspicuous officers in it, who had been given place by Southern influences, did all go South, while, in fact, but a very small proportion of the Army went.

Every page of the Burnside Army Bill corrects some fault, and it cannot fail in having a good effect. It is the result of very careful and laborious study, including the entire military plan of our present system and those of other countries, particularly the very great improvements incorporated in foreign armies, the results of actual war; and wherever changes are made, it is with a view to adopt those well known improvements. Our Army has stood still while all others have gone forward. We did not even attempt to incorporate the lessons of the war.

A most harmful strife has existed for a long time between the line and staff, growing out of our present fixed staff system, which makes an officer once of the staff, always of the staff, thereby creating at once special and opposing interests, the advantages being largely with the staff. They by this system become specialists, and by long separation from the line lose the characteristics of soldiers and become unfamiliar with the needs and spirit of the Army, while they largely control it. Their habitation in Washington, and social relations there, give them great control over Army legislation; and in our country, where the military interest is so weak, there is no sufficient check to legislation of this kind for personal ends. The bill proposes to correct all this by interchange of duty in line and staff, making the Army homogeneous in interest and sympathy. This interchange has been adopted by every good army in the world but our own. The bill also creates a general staff, a most important part of armies, which we do not possess at all.

Our artillery as compared to that of European governments is very unsatisfactory, and could not oppose the light and accurate steel guns now adopted by every European power. The Austrian gun of similar pattern and equal caliber, is made of a hardened or steel bronze. . . . While our Springfield gun is a very superior weapon, I was of the opinion that the arms furnished by the Providence Arms Company to the Turkish government, which I saw in the hands of the Turkish troops, were better, and that the sporting or hunting arms made at private manufactories are usually a better arm than those made by the Government.

Upon the bill generally, I believe it highly in the interests of the Government. Of course, some changes may be made, but some such bill must soon become the law. I believe it a great wrong to reduce the number of general officers, and in bad faith to the Corps and Army commanders of the war who chose to remain in the Army with reduced rank, with the tacit understanding that the sixteen general positions then left to the line were left that they might gradually regain their war rank as a suitable retiring grade for their old age.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## "FUEL QUESTION."

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: I believe there has been no legislation of Congress so small, so unjust or so liable to work bad results, as that of doing away with the fuel. In the Northern station it will take about one-fourth of an officer's pay, while an officer in a Southern station, having less hardship, needs less fuel, and has more pay. Again, at some posts fuel can be gathered outside which will certainly be done, and men taken from their duties to do so, thus imposing more work upon a command. At another post, some selfish old bachelor in command, needing only one fire, will not permit such work to be done for the benefit of some younger officer poor in purse, but rich in the numbers of his children to be kept from freezing. At one of our posts last winter the thermometer averaged for ten days 40 deg. below zero, and it required in sets of quarters occupied by families, four to six constant fires day and night, and even with this, in one of the barracks heated by immense stoves, water in buckets next to the stoves froze solid. There is not a member of Congress who would vote as he did, knowing the facts and the great suffering from cold on our frontiers. Again, instead of allowing an officer perfect freedom from care, and all his time for his duties, each one now will have his time fully occupied, sorting his coal heap, or cutting wood to save his already small pay. If this grand, glorious and noble Republic can not afford to warm the quarters of its already overworked officers, then stop so much out of our pay and furnish the fuel, which will work far better results than the present system.

## IMPROVED WEAPONS FOR THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: The Army and militia are gratified in seeing the only Army and Navy paper in the country take up this most important subject of Army equipment, as through the press it can be shown to interested persons what improvements in arms and munitions are necessary and can be made.

In the Army there has been, and is still, a want of confidence in the weapons with which it is supplied. There have been statements made and strong evidence given, to the effect that the Army does not have the best arms and munitions which can be procured.

The officers in command of troops who use the weapons now supplied by the Ordnance Department, complain through the press, that their men have no confidence in the weapons which they use, and that on the plains the Indians whom they fight are supplied with far superior arms, which are manufactured at private armories. The commanding officers of the Military Divisions of the Atlantic and of the Missouri and their subordinate officers support this statement.

In order to delay the issue of better arms to the troops, the Chief of Ordnance has sent a circular to his subordinates at the Headquarters of the Military Divisions, asking these officers to forward to the Ordnance Department rifles or carbines captured from the Indians; as he states that complaints have been made for the last few years (the men who use these arms would like to know for how many years) that the service carbine was inferior in range and in accuracy to the arms commonly used by the hostile Indians. Would it not have been better if the Chief of Ordnance had purchased the best breech-loading rifles that could be procured, as a Remington, Whitney, Sharps, Winchester, and a Peabody-Martini, many of which are used by the armies abroad and by hunters in the west, and issued them to the troops on the frontier for trial.

Congress has appropriated money to supply officers with Ordnance stores, which have to be purchased or manufactured, but the requests of officers for improved weapons are set aside unheeded. The Ordnance Department have given no encouragement whatever to the officers of the line serving with troops, for the recommendations, improvements, and inventions they suggest and make in arms and equipments. The line of the Army understands the difference between the fighting of to-day and that of the four years' Civil War, and the great need of change in arms and munitions. In some regiments, especially cavalry, from the commanding officer down, no one is in favor of the Springfield rifle or carbine, now in the hands of the troops.

There have been many improvements in small-arms since the Terry Board adopted the Springfield rifle, and a change in arms and equipments should be made without delay. There are several facts which should be brought to light:

1st. The Terry Board did not want the Springfield carbine for the cavalry. Why was it issued to the Army?

2d. An intrenching bayonet was adopted for the musket-bearing portion of the Army. Why did not all of them receive it?

3rd. Who is responsible for the law forbidding the use of any but the breech-loading system, known as the Springfield, in the manufacture of small-arms at Springfield armory?

4th. Why was the manufacture of intrenching bayonets limited to 10,000, when the Board recommended their adoption for the whole Army?

The cavalry, which arm of the service as an entire body are on the frontier, make the most complaints in regard to the weapons with which they are armed. To delay the issue of a better small-arm, they are asked the question, in a letter from Department Headquar-

ters: "Which do you prefer to retain, the Springfield carbine or to change it for the Springfield rifle?" These officers have no alternative, but must choose between two evils. What is necessary is a change in the system by which the Army and militia are supplied with materials of war. The present system is obsolete, expensive, and injurious to the morale of the Army. In the Mexican war our infantry were armed with flint-lock muskets, although improved rifles, with percussion locks, could easily have been procured. During the Civil War, excellent breech-loaders were in the market, but muzzle-loaders were the arms which were placed in the hands of our troops. To-day there is no improvement in the system of supplying improved arms and munitions to the troops. Upon the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance, a law was passed forbidding any officer, other than an Ordnance officer, to be stationed at any Government armory or arsenal, to perfect his inventions, no matter how much value they might be to the service. The line of the Army have not asked for a law forbidding an Ordnance officer to go into action with a regiment of cavalry, or infantry, to witness the effect of any new invention which he wishes to test. It is to be earnestly desired that the proposed Army reorganization will bring about a better system of furnishing arms and equipments to the troops.

## FRONTIER SERVICE.

## MILITARY EDUCATION IN COLLEGES.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: One branch of the military education of our people, much neglected and overlooked, needs discussion and a better general understanding of its present system and its working. I refer to the instruction in military science and tactics given by officers detailed at our State universities or other colleges.

Upon examining into this subject it will be found that the military departments at many of these institutions are not what they should be; and, in case of the "land grant colleges," are not what the spirit and intent of the law demands. In every case it will also be found that the fault lies with the institutions rather than with the officers detailed there—that the latter is, in some cases, actually struggling to keep into existence a department, worthy of the name, under difficulties and opposition most discouraging to him and destructive to any and all good and efficient military instruction and discipline.

In the first place, it is hardly fair that colleges intending and desiring to carry out the objects expected to be obtained by the detail of an officer, should be allowed to apply in vain for one, while at the same time officers are detailed and kept at other institutions where, as in the case of one institution, within the last three years under a system of voluntary drill, but 20 out of 150 students were connected with the department, and the average attendance was so small that even company drill could not be had. If institutions do not or can not furnish the necessary material for the work for which the officer is detailed, they should yield the officer to some other institution better disposed towards military instruction, and having plenty of material and ready and willing to furnish something more than a mere squad.

One great difficulty lies in the fact that many of the managers and faculties of these colleges believe "that a military department cannot be engrafted upon a civil institution"—"that compulsory drill works disadvantageously to it and cannot be maintained." They have no idea of discipline, as the Army understands the word.

The majority of those feeling this way make no attempt whatever to try the compulsory system or to enforce it if adopted. This statement will, I think, apply to a very large number of our institutions. For, I believe, if the truth were known, that in many of them, where rules do exist requiring all or certain of the students to drill, the rule is not enforced. In one known instance the exception is greater than the rule itself. In other words, the number excused from drill, of those required, is greater than the number remaining and actually drilling. The Government does not obtain the full recompense due it and that it should have from the detail of its officers. So much for institutions where drill is said to be "required."

Where the drill is voluntary the whole matter of the number of students drilling depends almost entirely upon the personal popularity of the officer, and discipline is only maintained by his personal influence over the students. Uniforms cannot be required, or if required the requirement cannot be enforced without danger of losing a large number of the volunteers. There is also a continual change detrimental to all good discipline or drill, on account of some members dropping out and new ones coming in. It may be said that after entering they should be required to remain for a certain fixed period—one term or more—but, I venture to say, that in any institution where there is voluntary drill, no student will find any trouble in getting excused by the President or faculty at any time he desires it, provided he has any nominal excuse to offer.

I have referred thus far more particularly to colleges whose obligations arise solely from their application for an officer and the detail of one thereupon. The State industrial or land grant colleges are under a greater and an additional obligation to the Government. The act of Congress of July 2, 1863, donating them lands, especially provides that the teaching of "military tactics" shall be one of the leading objects of those institutions.

The almost universal evasion of this portion of the requirement of the act ought to be made a subject of general comment, and the influence of public opinion should be brought to bear upon them in order to awaken the moral obligation of those in charge and compel them to take some steps to carry out the law.

That a military department can, with great advan-

tage instead of detriment, be engrafted upon a civil institution, has been proven by actual experiment and present existence. It is only necessary to refer to the Illinois Industrial University and its worthy and able President, Hon. J. M. Gregory, under whose supervision there has been instituted a military department, in connection with the other regular courses of study, which is an honor both to the institution and to that State.

Again, in the University of California every male student has been required to drill, and their officers are commissioned in the State militia.

In West Virginia University is a military department differing, so far as I know, from that of any other university existing under the land grant. There it is a separate and distinct course, and a self-existing department, to which cadets are appointed in a manner similar to that of the appointments to West Point, though on a smaller scale.

There seems to be but two courses open to these colleges under the law. One to give a general education in military tactics and drill to the entire body of male students while attending to their regular studies in college courses, thus fitting them for soldiers. The other is to adopt a system similar to that of West Virginia, giving a thorough training not only in tactics and drill, but in the higher branches of military science to the few—preparing the graduates to be officers.

The regents of the Kentucky University which changed from the compulsory to the volunteer system of drill, some two or three years since, have had reason to regret their action and to realize that it was a mistake. So much for the experiences of the past and the present.

We are not reaping the advantages that should be derived from a law intended to be of universal and national benefit. It is necessary that something more be done. To make the best disposition of the limited number allowed, more stringent rules should be made regarding the detail of officers.

None should be sent where their services will not be appreciated and their labor lost. All of the departments should be under the supervision of the Adjutant-General of the Army or some officer specially detailed for the purpose, to whom reports, monthly or quarterly, should be made, giving the exact status of the department in each institution where an officer is detailed. And a personal inspection of each, at least annually, would also be beneficial.

D.

## NAVAL COURTS-MARTIALS AND NAVY REGISTERS AGAIN.

## ANOTHER CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: Noticing in the *JOURNAL* of Jan. 18, E. B. M.'s corrections of my corrections, I would say I had no desire to enter into a controversy with him about authorities, but simply to deal with facts. My intention was to set the record and him right as to the asserted facts, and without offence. He says with regard to Naval Courts-martial that "the American State Papers furnish no instance earlier than Jan. 30, 1818." Perhaps not; but on referring to the American State Papers, vol. 1, pages 470 and 473, I find that the court for the trial of Capt. Perry assembled on board the frigate *Java* at Port Mahon, Jan. 10, 1817, and the court for Capt. Heath's trial assembled on board the same ship Dec. 31, 1816, both rather more than a year before the date he has fixed by the same authority for those courts-martial. At page 502, under date April 1, 1818, are printed the proceedings of certain courts-martial "lately held in the Mediterranean," etc.

E. B. M. says, "as to private documents he has no dealings with them," but "confines himself exclusively to official statements." I would say the State Papers do not exhaust all special sources of information, and it is the duty of any one making a statement of historical fact to consult all reliable authorities, and be sure he is right before going ahead. Now, the Proceedings of the Courts-martial of Commodore Barron and his officers in 1808, to which I referred, was "Published by order of the Navy Department," and is therefore an official statement.

With regard to the Navy Registers I stated explicitly E. B. M. was right, in that the Register of 1814 was "the first printed by order of the Senate," but that there were earlier ones, some of which I mentioned. I would say now they were not "mere lists of officers in service," as the titles I gave of two of them sufficiently shows. Goldsborough's Register of 1800, prepared when he was Chief Clerk of the Navy Department, was quite as official as the Mechlin and Winder General Register which E. B. M. cites.

BROOKLINE, MASS., Jan. 19, 1879.

P.S. I did not know until E. B. M.'s communication that "on the 4th of July, 1776, George Washington proclaimed Liberty from Independence Hall, Philadelphia, throughout the land." He can hardly find that in any official statement. Or that the *Pennsylvania*, launched in 1837, was the first or even a first line of battle ship in our Navy. She was put upon the stocks in 1822, while every other line of battle ship of our Navy was commenced before 1819, and the *Independence* was launched at Boston in 1814.

THE Czar of Russia has ordered the authorities of East Siberia to immediately despatch an overland sledge expedition to ascertain the whereabouts of Nordenfalk's expedition, Arctic, en route through the North Sea to Behring Strait and Japan.

# THE NATIONAL GUARD.

## NATIONAL MILITARY CONVENTION.

We gave last week a report of the proceedings of the first day's session of the National Military Convention, which met on Thursday, January 16, at the 7th regiment armory, New York. The Convention it will be remembered originated in an invitation sent out by militia officers in this vicinity, asking the adjutant-generals and other representatives of militia organizations in the several States to assemble here and consult together as to the establishment of a uniform militia organization throughout the country.

On the second day, Friday, the Convention met promptly at 10 A. M., Gen. Barney in the chair. The following delegates reported for duty in addition to those names were given last week:

*Illinois*—Capt. John S. Loomis.  
*Ohio*—Adj. Gen. Melley and Major Stible.  
*Missouri*—Capt. J. R. Dougherty, Col. Charles W. Squire, and Col. Charles W. Hunt.  
*Iowa*—Adj. Gen. W. L. Alexander.  
*South Carolina*—Gen. E. M. Moise.  
*Louisiana*—Gen. G. T. Beauregard and Gen. Dabney H. Maury.  
This made a representation of seventeen States by forty-five delegates.

Gen. Wingate, of New York, Chairman of the Committee on Legislation, then presented a modified bill embodying the principal amendments discussed at previous sessions. At this time Judge Hilton (who had entertained the Convention the previous evening) entered the Convention, and was enthusiastically welcomed. He made a brief address of thanks, and then retired. Business was at once resumed. On motion the report of the committee was taken up and considered section by section. After discussion on general sections by Gen. Walker, Moise, Reeder, Melley, Jones, Robertson, Beauregard, Wingate, Alexander, Cois, Squires, Moore, Hart, Ordway, Major Hepburn, etc., the following bill was adopted:

### AN ACT TO REORGANIZE AND DISCIPLINE THE MILITIA OF THE UNITED STATES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,

Section 1. Every able bodied male citizen resident within the respective States and Territories between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years except such as may be exempted by the law, shall constitute the Militia. (Sec. 1625, R. S.)

Sec. 2. The Militia shall be divided into two classes—the active, to be known as the National, or State Guard, as the Legislature of each State may prescribe, and the inactive, to be known as the Reserve Militia.

Sec. 3. The National or State Guard shall consist of such regularly uniformed and enlisted troops in the several States and Territories as are and may be organized therein in pursuance of such laws as have been or may be passed by the Legislatures thereof, and shall be liable to be called out for service. The Reserve Militia may be enrolled in such manner as the Legislatures of the several States and Territories may direct. They shall be liable to no active duty except when called into service in time of war, invasion, or insurrection.

Sec. 4. In time of peace the number of the National or State Guard of each State or Territory which such State shall be entitled to receive aid under this act shall not exceed in the aggregate seven hundred and fifty men, including commissioned officers and enlisted men for each congressional representative.

Sec. 5. [In place of sections 1625, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1631, Rev. Stat.] The organization of the National or State Guard of the several States and Territories shall be prescribed by the Legislatures thereof. Such organization shall conform as closely to the method prescribed for the Regular Army as the circumstances of the various States and Territories will permit.

In time of peace the number, rank, and duties of the staff officers, and the organization of bureaus of administration, in the Militia of the several States and Territories shall be such as the Legislatures thereof from time to time direct.

When called into the service of the United States, the Militia, if called out by regiments, may be organized by the President into brigades and divisions, as the public interest may in his opinion require, and he may assign and designate the commanders of such brigades and divisions (see sections 1646, 1647, Rev. Stat.) and the number, rank, and duties of the staff officers, shall be the same as prescribed for the Regular Army.

Sec. 6. [In place of sections 1630, 1638.] Officers of the Militia shall take precedence according to the date of their commissions. In case two of the same grade have commissions of equal date, their rank shall be determined by lot, to be drawn by them before their commanding officer, unless their relative rank is prescribed by regulation.

Sec. 7. As soon as practicable after the passage of this act the President shall appoint a board of seven officers, two of whom shall be officers of the Army and five selected from the Active Militia of the Eastern, Middle, Southern, Western, and Pacific States respectively, for the purpose of selecting a suitable pattern of campaign dress and equipment for the Active Militia.

Sec. 8. [In place of section 1628.] Each State or Territory receiving any part of the appropriation hereby made shall, as soon as practicable after the passage of this act, cause its Active Militia to be provided with a complete and suitable service dress and campaign equipment; such dress and equipment to be after a pattern selected as prescribed in the preceding section, to be worn when such Militia are called out for active service, and at such other times as the military authorities of the State or Territory may direct. This provision shall not interfere with the wearing of any full dress uniform permitted by the State or Territory; but no moneys appropriated under this act are to be expended in payment thereof. *Provided*, however, that serviceable fatigue clothing and equipments in use at the time of the passage of this act need not be replaced.

Sec. 9. The uniform and equipment of the Militia shall be exempt from all suits, distresses, executions, or sales from debt or for the payment of taxes (section 1635).

Sec. 10. As soon as practicable after the passage of this act the President shall appoint a board of seven officers to prepare a system of rules for the discipline of the Active Militia. The board shall comprise two officers of the Army, and five of the Active Militia selected from the Eastern, Middle, Southern and Western and Pacific States respectively. Said rules to be based upon the regulations prescribed for the Army, and when approved by the President, shall be published by the War Department in a small pocket volume and issued upon State requisitions, so that each officer and soldier of the Active Militia shall be provided with a copy. *And provided*, That the Legislature of a State or the Governor thereof may make such consistent additions to said rules as may be deemed desirable. And the Adjutant-General of the Army shall give due notice from time to time of any changes occurring in the Regulations for the Army for the information of the State authorities.

Sec. 11. The annual sum of one million dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of providing arms, ammunition, and other ordnance and quartermaster's stores for the Active Militia of the several States and Territories, and for the other purposes covered by this act.

Such appropriation, after deducting the special expenses hereinafter authorized for the general benefit of the Active Militia, shall be apportioned among the several States and Territories in proportion to the number of their regularly organized and uniformed Militia in service on the first day of December of each year, without reference to the condition of accounts between any State and the General Government at the time of the passage of this act.

Sec. 12. The small arms and ammunition aforesaid shall be of the pattern selected by the States respectively, but of the same calibre and chamber as that prescribed for the Regular Army, and to be suitable for military service. When any State or Territory has made requisition for arms, ammunition, or ordnance stores or quartermaster's stores, not manufactured by the Ordnance or Quartermaster's Department, the War Department shall thereupon purchase the same of private manufacturers, under such regulations as to inspection and quality of the material and fitness for military service as may be deemed necessary for the protection of the public interests. *And further provided*, That said war material shall be delivered to the State as soon as it has passed the required inspection, and the cost thereof shall be charged to the allowance of such State out of the annual appropriation for the Active Militia.

Sec. 13. There shall be an Adjutant-General in each State and Territory, who shall, under the direction of the Governor, carry into execution and perfect the established system of military discipline. It shall be his duty to collect and forward to the War Department all reports required by this act.

Sec. 14. [In place of sec. 1636.] It shall be the duty of the Adjutant-General of each State and Territory, on the first day of January in each year, to make an annual return to the War Department, in such form as shall be, from time to time, prescribed by the Secretary of War, of the results of the annual inspection for the Active Militia and military property of such State or Territory, and to make a special report whenever called for by the Secretary of War.

Sec. 15. [In place of sec. 1635.] For the purpose of ascertaining the number and condition of the Active Militia in each State and Territory an annual inspection thereof shall be made by an officer or officers thereof, whose duty it shall be to report the result to the Adjutant-General thereof, stating the number of the Militia, the actual condition of the arms, accoutrements, ammunition, and equipment, their condition of the troops and public property, with the consent and under the general directions of the Governor of such State or Territory, and while so detailed retired officers shall receive the same pay and emoluments as officers of their respective grades upon the active list: *Provided*, however, That such officer shall have no authority in any way to control or interfere with the State Inspector, or to exercise any power or authority during such inspection over the officers or men of the Militia inspected. He shall make a report in duplicate, and transmit one copy to the Governor of such State or Territory and another to the Secretary of War, of such matters as shall, in his judgment, require to be brought to their attention, which reports shall be confidential, and shall not be made public except with the consent of the Governor and the Secretary of War.

Sec. 16. Notice shall be given by each Adjutant-General to the Secretary of War of the time and place of the annual inspections of the Active Militia and military property of his State or Territory, and thereupon the President shall detail an officer from the active or retired list of the Army to accompany the State Inspector during his inspection, and observe the general condition of the troops and public property, with the consent and under the general directions of the Governor of such State or Territory, and while so detailed retired officers shall receive the same pay and emoluments as officers of their respective grades upon the active list: *Provided*, however, That such officer shall have no authority in any way to control or interfere with the State Inspector, or to exercise any power or authority during such inspection over the officers or men of the Militia inspected. He shall make a report in duplicate, and transmit one copy to the Governor of such State or Territory and another to the Secretary of War, of such matters as shall, in his judgment, require to be brought to their attention, which reports shall be confidential, and shall not be made public except with the consent of the Governor and the Secretary of War.

Sec. 17. Each State receiving any portion of the appropriation made in this act shall be required to provide for the maintenance thereof to equip and maintain at least one rifle range for the instruction of its Active Militia in rifle practice, and to require them to be instructed therein.

Sec. 18. The Secretary of War is authorized, out of the moneys hereby appropriated, to offer annually to the regularly organized and uniformed Militia of each State and Territory (provided they number at least 1,000 men) a prize not to exceed \$100 in value, for competition in rifle practice. Also to annually offer a prize of \$1,000, to be shot for by a "team" or detachments from the National Guard or Active Militia of each State or Territory, from each of the three divisions of the Army and from the Navy, to be divided among the three "teams" standing highest in such match.

The terms and conditions of both matches to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

Each State team shall be certified to by the Adjutant-General of its State as consisting of its regularly organized and uniformed Active Militia, and transportation to and from said last-named match shall be furnished out of such appropriation to such a team and reserve, not to exceed fifteen in number from each State, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

Sec. 19. Upon the application of any regimental, division, or brigade commander of the Militia or National Guard of any State or Territory, the Governor thereof may apply to the Secretary of War to assign an officer from the active or retired list of the Army to act as Adjutant of such regiment, or Assistant Adjutant-General or Chief of Staff of such brigade or division. Whenever the public interests will admit, the Secretary of War is authorized to assign such officer for such duty, with his consent.

Officers so assigned shall be commissioned as officers in such Militia by the Governor of such State or Territory, and shall hold such commissions during his pleasure. While performing such duty, they shall give their entire time, or so much thereof as shall be necessary to properly perform the duties of their office, shall be subject to the rules and regulations of such Militia while so assigned, and shall receive the full pay and emoluments of their rank, not exceeding that of a colonel in the Army.

No assignment shall be made of any officer for this duty to the prejudice of his Regular Army, nor unless he shall have been at least three years' service in the field. All such assignments may be revoked at pleasure by the Secretary of War by giving notice thereof to the Governor of the State. Upon receipt of such notice by the latter, the officer whose assignment is revoked shall cease to be an officer to the National Guard or Militia of such State or Territory, and shall be honorable discharged therefrom by his Governor.

Repeal Secs. 1,630, 1,641, 1,642, 1,643, 1,644, 1,645, 1,646, 1,647, 1,650 to 1,660.

Sec. 20. Officers of the Active Militia, while actually serving upon any of the boards created by Secs. 7 and 10 of this act, shall receive the pay of their rank, not to exceed that of Colonel in the Army, and mileage to and from their residences.

The amount of money necessary for the payment of their said services, and also for the payment of such expenses incurred by the said boards in the performance of their duties as may be approved by the Secretary of War, is hereby appropriated to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated: *Provided*, however, that the total amount of money so to be paid shall not exceed \$10,000.

Sec. 21. There shall be at least one annual encampment of the Active Militia of each State and Territory by regiment, brigade or division of each portion thereof as the authorities of such State or Territory may prescribe, to last at least five consecutive days. On the application of the Governor of any State so much of the annual appropriation as may be due upon its quota may be applied toward the subsistence and expenses of the troops encamped, not to exceed the rate of \$1 a day per man, and for the purchase of necessary camp and garrison equipage.

No name or designation which may be given by any State to its Active Militia shall invalidate the claims of the said Active Militia under the provisions of this bill.

Sec. 22. [To be added to the end of Section 1653, Revised Statutes.] Mounted officers and members of mounted companies in Militia called into the service of the United States shall each receive such consideration for use and risk of horses actually used by them as may be awarded by a board of officers appointed by the Secretary of War. The same allowances of forage shall be made for private horses used by the Militia in the service of the United States as for horses owned by the United States.

Sec. 23. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed: *Provided*, however, that this act shall not affect sections 1,639, 1,641, 1,642, 1,643, 1,644, 1,645 to 1,654, 1,656 to 1,660, of the Revised Statutes which are hereby continued in force.

Sec. 24. This act shall take effect immediately.

In the course of the interesting debate upon the proposed bill, Gen. Robertson, (Mich.), said that if the bill became a law, there were 200,000 men in the West and South who would immediately come into the ranks of the National Guard with valuable experience gained in the late war.

The following were reported by members of the convention as the number of uniformed Militia at present in their

several States: New York, 19,803; Pennsylvania, 10,000; Ohio, 8,600; Illinois, 8,000; Iowa, 5,500; Massachusetts, 4,400; South Carolina, 4,000; New Jersey, 3,800; North Carolina, 2,750; Connecticut, 2,500; Louisiana, 2,400; Missouri, 2,300; Rhode Island, 2,000; California, 2,000; Michigan, 2,000; Virginia, 1,200; Vermont, 750. Total 81,003.

Considerable discussion arose as to the character of the arms to be issued to the National Guard. Gen. Moise (S. C.) said that the course pursued by the general Government in issuing arms to his State heretofore, was not calculated to promote unlimited trust in the discretion of the Ordnance Department. South Carolina had been run into debt \$97,000 by the issue to her of 10,000 worthless muskets of obsolete patterns in advance of her quota. Thus her quota had been used up for years to come. Similar statements were made by other members.

A resolution was adopted that the convention organize itself as a National Association to represent the Active Militia of the States and Territories, and that the first annual meeting be held at St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 30, 1883. A committee to draft a constitution and by-laws for the association was appointed, consisting of Gen. Johnston Jones (N. C.), Gen. Geo. W. Wingate (N. Y.), Maj. A. D. Hepburn (Penn.).

It was also resolved that the convention consist of the Adjutant-General and five delegates from each State.

An executive committee consisting of one member from each State and Territory was appointed to take charge of the interests of the National Guard during adjournment. The executive committee to appoint a sub-committee of three to proceed to Washington to present the bill to Congress. The following were appointed executive committee:

Mass.—Adjutant-General A. Hun Berry.  
Rhode Island—Major-General W. R. Walker.  
Conn.—Col. W. H. Tubbs.  
Louisiana—General Wm. T. Beham.  
New York—B. G. Gen. Geo. W. Wingate.  
Missouri—Col. Chas. W. Squire.  
New Jersey—Adjutant-General W. S. Stryker.  
Virginia—Col. Bradley T. Johnston.  
Michigan—Inspector-General L. W. Heath.  
Vermont—Adjutant-General J. L. Peck.  
California—Col. W. R. Smedberg.  
Ohio—Adjutant-General Luther D. Melley.  
South Carolina—Maj.-Gen. B. H. Rutledge.  
Illinois—Col. J. S. Loomis.  
North Carolina—General Basil C. Manly.  
Pennsylvania—Brigadier-General F. Reeder.  
Maine—Major-General J. L. Chamberlain.  
New Hampshire—Colonel J. N. Pattison.  
Maryland—Colonel of 5th Maryland.  
West Virginia—Adjutant-General E. L. Wood.  
Georgia—General K. P. Alexander.  
Florida—Lieutenant Franklin Jourdan.  
Alabama—General B. D. Fry.  
Mississippi—Lieutenant-General S. D. Lee.  
Texas—General J. C. Walker.  
Tennessee—Adjutant-General Chas. D. Porter.  
Indiana—Adjutant-General G. W. Russ.  
Minnesota—Adjutant-General E. M. Vancleve.  
Iowa—Major-General C. V. Mount.  
Arkansas—General Jas. Fagan.  
Idaho—Captain Robt. B.  
Dakota—Col. H. E. Brownson.  
District Columbia—Col. J. G. Moore.

A resolution was adopted empowering the executive committee to make all necessary arrangements for the next meeting of the convention.

The executive committee subsequently held a meeting and appointed Generals Heath, Moise and Lient. Hammond as sub-committee to proceed to Washington to present the bill to Congress. By a resolution of the convention the delegates were requested to provide them with letters to their respective representatives in Congress, and endeavor to obtain their favorable consideration for the bill. The secretary was also instructed to provide adjutant-generals of States with copies of the bill and bespeak their support for it.

On motion of General Robertson (Mich.), it was "resolved" that the governors of the several States be most respectfully requested to give their attention to the subject of a reorganization of the Militia of the United States, and that they use all consistent efforts in aid of the bill prepared by the convention to further that object.

On motion by Gen. Dabney H. Maury (La.), it was "resolved" that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to consider and recommend what measures should be adopted for the promotion of efficient military instruction by the State and National forces." Gen. Maury (La.), Gen. G. S. Peck (Vt.), and Col. Rodney C. Ward (N. Y.), were appointed such committee.

On motion by Gen. Alexander (Iowa), it was "Resolved, That the thanks of the convention are due and are hereby tendered to General Geo. W. Wingate for the proficiency to which he has brought rifle practice in the State of New York, thereby furnishing an example to the entire National Guard of the country, well worthy of imitation.

The officers of the convention, Gen. Barney, chairman, Gen. S. B. Smith, secretary, were thanked by resolutions for their very valuable service, and the assistance rendered the secretary by Maj. Morris B. Farr and Capt. W. H. Murphy was similarly acknowledged.

Gen. Beauregard moved a resolution of thanks for courtesies shown by Gen. Hancock and the officers on Governor's Island, and Gen. Moise of S. C., to Gen. Abbott for an invitation to visit Willet's Point. Resolutions of thanks for courtesies shown were also voted to the Board of Ordnance officers U. S. A., to the 7th Regt., N. G. S. N. Y., and the N. G. officers of New York and to Capt. Chas. T. Robbins, I. R. P., 7th Regt. Also to the Hon. Henry Hilton and Wm. C. Church for their hospitality to the convention, the former having extended to the convention the honor of a reception, and the latter invited them to lunch. The reception at Judge Hilton's elegant residence in 34th street was a noteworthy feature of the meeting. Judge Hilton has taken occasion to express his appreciation of the services rendered by the Militia, and chose the occasion of this meeting to show this appreciation by issuing invitations to the leading officers of the National Guard, the officers of the Army and Navy in this vicinity, and many well-known citizens, to meet the members of the convention at his house on the evening of Thursday. From 400 to 500 persons attended, and the reception was a brilliant one in all respects.

THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION S. N. Y.—The second meeting of this Association is being held at the City Hall, Albany, as we go to press, delegates from almost every organization in the State National Guard being present. The "Military Association" of the State, from which this present organization was perfected, was in its youth a valuable adjunct in the obtaining of good legislation for the National Guard, but of late years had degenerated into what was aptly termed a "Mutual Admiration Society," whose sole object seemed to be the airing of particular whims and a social visit to the State Adjutant-General. It had outlived its usefulness, and one by one officers interested in the welfare of the National Guard retired from its membership, feeling that their attendance was only a

loss of individual time. Last year, however, the present Association was formed upon a representative plan, and the divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and separate troops were invited to join the association. The success of this new departure was evinced by the manner in which the commands of the 1st and 2d Divisions joined the movement, and of the fifteen infantry organizations in New York city and Brooklyn twelve sent representatives. As at present organized, this Association must be of great benefit to the National Guard, as its voice will be the expression of its thinking members. The laws regulating and governing the forces of the State of New York, known as the Military Code and Regulations, and which have from time to time been amended and tinkered, are a fruitful subject for the consideration of an assemblage, composed as this is of soldiers whose views are derived from individual experience, and their consideration must lead to the enactment of only such laws as will conduce to the benefit of the Troops of the State.

For this meeting the delegates were requested to bring with them for discussion such amendments to the Military Code as they may see fit to offer, in order that they might be freely discussed ere being presented to the Legislature. In his annual message the Commander-in-Chief speaks in the most flattering terms of the National Guard of the State, and announces his willingness to approve of all laws for its advantage and welfare, while at the same time he most justly disapproves of all special bills for the aggrandizement of individual organizations. The aim of the present Association is to benefit the whole, therefore its actions and endorsements will be found as the true expression of the wishes and sympathies of the National Guard of the State. The want of proper equipment for field service during the railroad riots of 1877 caused the members of the Legislature of last year to pass an appropriation for the purchase of clothing and equipments, yet the amount granted although apparently large was found to be too little by one-half, and a second appropriation has already been asked for. The bill will be made a special subject for consideration. This subject of uniforms and equipments is one of most vital importance. The present cost of placing the enlisted man in condition to perform the duty required in cities—full dress and fatigue uniforms—will average over \$60 per recruit, and the present system, in use in almost every organization in the State, of equipping the men at regimental expense, is undermining and destroying the financial condition of many regiments. The State allows only \$8 per man for five years, \$40 to those who perform a certain number of parades and drills, yet regiments are willing to pay \$20 extra per man for the sake of keeping up an appearance of strength, the greater part of which is merely on paper. It can be readily seen that, with an income of \$40 and an outlay of \$60, financial disaster must soon overtake organizations who practice this system. This has been foreseen by the Association, for one of the subjects for discussion is a special bill to be introduced at this session of the Legislature. It is stated that the debts of many organizations have been almost forced under the present system and ought not to be permitted to exist, and that before the adjournment of the Legislature these debts may be wiped out, and a system inaugurated under which the gravest penalties shall be imposed upon officers again incurring such indebtedness.

As we go to press the Convention adjourns we cannot announce the fate of this movement; but, as we have stated, the Association was formed for the good of the National Guard, this movement, which is seemingly paying a premium to inconsiderate organizations, and unjust on its very face, will meet the fate it so well deserves—the condemnation of the Association. On the other hand the plan for an annual encampment of say ten days, and embracing rifle practice, annual inspection, and brigade review, must commend itself to every member of the Guard, and receive their approval. Another question of most vital importance for immediate legislation is the relation of the employer to the National Guardsman. This also will receive due consideration during the meeting. A full report of the proceedings of the Association will be given in next week's JOURNAL.

**SEVENTH NEW YORK (CITY).—**The eighth company (H), Capt. Jas. L. Price, occupied the main hall of the armory on Friday evening, January 17, twenty-four files answering to roll-call. The formation was excellent, but the roll-call was delayed at least two minutes for the accommodation of several late men. Among the many small company organizations in the State service this fault of awaiting the arrival of late men (although a serious one) might be condoned by the fact that they are necessary to perfect a formation strong enough to teach company movements; still the JOURNAL has invariably condemned the practice as one which would eventually injure the attendance. It was with surprise then that a delay was witnessed for late men in this company, or, in fact, any company in the regiment, where the average attendance is over five sets of fours, twenty files front. Promptness at assembly as well as perfection of company drill should be the rule in the eighth company. The drill began with a march column of fours perfect throughout; distances, step and alignments hardly to be improved on. An on right into line from this column was equally good as regards the step and distances; but the manual at the halt was very ragged, the pieces being brought down in 1, 2, 3 order. A repetition by the left was a great improvement, yet there was room for increased perfection. On executing on right into line single rank, nearly all of the rear fours executed the wheel to soon, and were forced to make an oblique in order to reach the alignment. Fronts into line by the right and left were rendered in fine shape; but in the double time the fours were very much broken, presenting a straggling appearance. Marching company front, the men were unsteady, while the alignments were repeatedly broken; the wheelings, however, were almost perfect, those from a fixed pivot being without a blemish. The oblique marches were very fine, the halt and carry being distinct and marked, while the manual during the march was remarkably good, cadence handsomely preserved, and motions prompt. After a short rest the company was exercised in the manual of arms at a halt, the execution being only fair. The ducking of heads at the right shoulder was particularly noticeable, while the order, although in perfect unison, was spoiled by the loud bang with which the pieces were brought to the floor. The fix and unfix bayonet were most excellently rendered. During the whole drill the captain, who was the instructor, was armed with a small cane or rattan as his badge of office, the sword slings hanging empty at his side. This fashion of receiving and drilling a company under arms, with the instructor armed with a cane or rammer, is peculiarly a feature of several companies in this regiment, and should be at once corrected by the proper authority. Swords are for the use of officers when on duty of any kind, and in the service would be worn as the badge of office even on a fatigue party—how much more reason then that they should be worn while instructing the men in company movements. We might and can imagine the look of disgust with which these officers would exclaim the orders of a field officer who should attempt to drill a battalion armed with a rattan or rammer. Yet at company drill they consider that it is their duty every purpose.

**EIGHTH NEW YORK (CITY).—**Cos. A, B, C, F and I, of this regiment, were equalized for battalion drill at the State Arsenal on Monday, January 20, the command being four companies of twelve files front, Maj. R. V. Young instructor, and Lieut. J. L. Shirley, Co. B, the acting adjutant. The formation was good and prompt, but too much time was wasted in equalizing the companies, it being fully twenty minutes past eight ere the command was turned over. The drill was opened by the breaking of column of fours from the right to march to the left, the step being unsteady and distances in the right companies very poor. The commanders of rear companies should order the "march" when the leading guide of the preceding company arrives opposite his right four, yet in nearly every case both right and left in front, the "march" was given too late, and as a consequence gaps were made between companies. During this march, column of fours, and in fact during the whole drill, the fours of the two right companies remained closed up, forgetting that thirty-two inches is the prescribed distance between ranks in column of fours. On a repetition the execution was improved upon as regards distances, the step, however, was unsteady. From the column of fours, fours left rear companies right front into line faced to the rear, was ordered. As this was part of the lesson at the previous drill of the wing the instructor failed to explain, the result being that the third company in line became badly confused. It marched too far to the rear, and on wheeling to the front incorrectly executed a right about, causing a still further loss of distance. The repetition of this movement could hardly be considered perfect, the commandant of third company was still at fault, while the guide of the second insisted on coming to the front and inverting his piece. In column of fours breaking from left to march to right, with the exception of the third company, the distance was well preserved, while the step was excellent. On forming line, right companies front into line faced to the rear, the error of too much distance of the previous movement, was repeated, while at the wheel about the right company was divided, one part executing a left and the other a right about. During a backward march, to gain room the company commanders incorrectly faced their companies. They should have remained in their original positions. Companies break from right to march to left and left to right were executed several times, in fine shape, although the turns might have been improved upon, while a march in column and a wheel into line were excellently performed. Several advances in line with wheels to the rear and retreat were cleanly executed, the step, alignments, and promptness of officers being most excellent. Right of companies rear into column was next ordered, meeting the usual fate of this movement, a break in several of the companies with gaps between the fours. Why should officers invariably blunder in the execution of this movement? It is nothing but a simple march of the fours to the rear, executed by fours right, fours left, halt and dress. Surely there is nothing difficult in these movements, they are executed to perfection by the squad and company, yet at battalion drills in almost every regiment of the first and second division, one or more companies come to grief and spoil this movement. We can ascribe the deficiency only to the carelessness of commanders in allowing their companies to pass beyond them ere ordering the wheel to the front. From the column of companies divisions were formed, and again reduced, the principal error, and one which escaped the argus eye of the instructor, being the failure of the rear companies to make the half face to the right or left at the order to "oblique." On repeating these movements by the left, considerable improvement was observed; but on forming divisions the captain of the second company was all at sea as to which flank his command should be dressed from. In breaking to the rear by divisions the movement was clean and perfect, not a particle of distance being lost. Closing in mass and taking wheeling distances were next fairly executed, although the commandant of the right company had to be reminded of the rule for successive formations. Several marches by the flank of divisions and sub-divisions with changes of direction were then made, all in excellent shape with the one exception of the wretched step of the right company. It would start fair, but at the first change of direction would break, only to recover at the next change and break at the succeeding one. This company is responsible for the unsteady step of the evening. From column of divisions at a halt, left front into line, was executed, the first division being broken and straggled, while the second company came into line at the double time, and with pieces part at carry and part at right shoulder. The major during the drill repeatedly called attention to the manner in which the pieces should be carried at double time, yet his instructions were again and again ignored even by the guides who certainly should have known better. The formation of the double column of fours and deployments were well executed, as were the on right and left into line from column of fours. Several general alignments were then performed, during which the guides of companies were at fault as to which direction they should face, forgetting the fact that when the color is the point of rest guides should face inwards. The fronts into line by wings, from a halt and on the march were good, while the double movement by wing to unite the battalion was very cleverly performed. The drill, from the point of instruction, was a good one, the errors being, as a rule, more from a want of promptness in giving commands on the part of company officers than from ignorance of tactics. The men were attentive and obedient, while the instructor was careful and precise in his explanations.

**NINTH NEW YORK (CITY).—**The die is cast and the 9th has a new colonel. When in March last it was found that even if he should survive, what proved a fatal illness, Col. Hitchcock would resign from command, the officers of the 9th became active in the canvass for his successor, and name after name was suggested and thrown aside. The result of the actual canvass was to divide the board, and vain efforts were made to secure a proper colonel. An election was finally ordered, and General Francis J. Herron was chosen. This election, although not unanimous, was tacitly agreed to, and all looked forward to harmony and good feeling, and increased numbers and discipline in the ranks. With the prospect of a new colonel the 9th paraded in good strength for annual inspection and muster, while its parade and marching salute to the new colonel at the close of the muster were most satisfactory to all concerned. A bomb shell was thrown into the very heart of the command some days after the inspection by the announcement that Colonel Herron declined the position, its verification being the commencement of a new wrangle for the honors. The next prominent candidate, and one fully capable of commanding the regiment, was ex-Lieut.-Col. A. H. Rogers, 47th New York, while an opposition candidate was named in the person of Mr. Henry Clair, a gentleman of wealth but without military experience. On these nominations the officers were evenly divided, the friends of each candidate claiming a majority; ere the election was ordered, however, Mr. Clair withdrew his name. The Rogers men as they had been dubbed by the other half of the board were jubilant, while the Clair people were quiet and deliberately clogged the wheels of the organization by failing to attend meeting, and thus prevent a request of a majority of the board for an election. Within two weeks past, however, a change came over the dream of the over-confident Rogers' men,

for the opposition secured a candidate in the person of ex-Lieut.-Col. S. Oscar Ryder, 7th regiment. Now, indeed the canvass became exciting, not only were the officers bitter in argument and denunciation, but the feeling was taken up by the rank and file, and caucuses after caucuses were held in the company rooms. A division was again claimed, and when General Vilmar ordered the election for Jan. 16 both sides were confident of victory. The polls were opened by the General at the hour required by law, and the work of canvassing unpledged voters was most actively engaged in. There were 27 officers entitled to vote, and which candidate should secure the odd man, Lieut. Aymil, was the question of the hour. Col. Ryder was the lucky one, and when at 9 o'clock the polls were closed, the vote stood: Ryder, 14; Rogers, 13. Col. Ryder at once accepted the office, and in thanking the officers for the honor, said he hoped to place the 9th regiment in the very front rank of the National Guard. Lieut.-Col. Montgomery made a neat and happy speech of welcome and congratulation, in which he asked his officers to forget the bitterness of the canvass and join with him in the hearty support of their new commandant. Col. Rogers' friends, however, were too sore at the defeat to receive pacific overtures, and seven of them at once tendered their resignations. This was done on the spur of the moment, but sober second thought has changed the determination, and these resignations have been withdrawn, all agreeing to work hand in hand for the general good of the old 9th. Col. Ryder enlisted in the eighth company, 7th New York, in 1855, and served consecutively for 24 years. He was an enthusiast in National Guard matters, and was soon promoted. He accompanied the regiment to Baltimore, and was promoted second lieutenant of the fifth company at Fort Federal Hill. Shortly after the war he was elected captain, from which position he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel. His ability as a tactician is second to none, and the columns of the JOURNAL has again and again paid tribute to his worth as a good instructor. We congratulate the 9th on his choice.

At a special meeting of Co. E, 7th regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., held Jan. 21, it was unanimously resolved:

*Whereas*, At an election held at the armory of the 9th regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., ex-Lieut.-Col. S. Oscar Ryder, formerly captain of this company, was elected colonel of the regiment.

*Resolved*, That we tender to Col. Ryder our congratulations for the honor that has been conferred upon him, that we view with pleasure and pride his re-entry into military life, and trust that the future will be one of brilliancy and success, both for himself and the noble command of which he is now the head.

**SIXTY-NINTH NEW YORK (CITY).—**At a meeting of the board of officers of the 69th regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., held at the armory, Essex Market, on Friday evening, Jan. 17, Major Edward Duffy presiding, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, We have learned with deep regret of the death of Dr. William P. Neale, for many years surgeon of this command.

*Resolved*, That we take advantage of this sad opportunity to place on record our high estimate of his character, and our recognition of his services and bravery while acting with the regiment during the war for the Union.

*Resolved*, That we tender our sincere sympathy to his bereaved family in their great affliction, and that the members of this board attend the funeral.

Capt. JOHN KEHN,  
JOHN CARTER,  
Lieut. JAMES CARROLL, } Com. on Resolutions.  
" WM. PURCELL,  
" JAS. J. WARD,

**FOURTEENTH NEW YORK (BROOKLYN).—**The reception given by this command at their armory, Portland avenue, proved a most successful one in a social as well as in a military light. The large building was literally packed "from turret to foundation stone," over 2,000 people being present. After a concert by the regimental band, the rifle competition between the fifteen best shots in the regiment was commenced. Rifle practice is certainly appreciated in Brooklyn judging by the plaudits of the spectators as fine scores were announced, and the men of the 14th are to be commended for their records under the excitement of the occasion. Private W. E. King, Co. F, won first prize, a beautiful gold badge on a full score of 21 points, the second prize going to private James Moore, Co. A, on 24 out of 25 points. After another piece of music the regiment was formed for review by General James Jourdan, commanding 2d Division. The battalion, ten commands, twelve files front presented a very handsome appearance at the formation, and were remarkably steady during the review in line. Of course, the 14th must meet the fate of the majority of National Guard organizations, its ceremonies being marred by the negligence of one or two men. The passage was only fair, distance being lost on the wheel from fours, the alignments were only average, while the salutes could be improved on. The staff and non-commissioned staff should read and remember the tactics as to when and where to assume position in regimental line, and when to draw swords. At the close of the review, the ceremony of dress parade which followed, was most evenly executed, the carry order and parade rest of the companies being excellent. The presentation of marksmen's badges for the year 1878 then took place, 70 members of the regiment who had qualified at Creedmoor receiving the badges from Rifle Inspectors Valentine and Jewell. Privates King and Moore, the successful competitors of the evening, also received their prizes, and with this ceremony the military part of the programme was brought to a close, and the ladies and their escorts took possession of the floor, and for a couple of hours dancing was indulged in.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—The militia is becoming settled, now that most of the field officers have been chosen, and the spring work is being laid out with regard to the annual inspections by regimental commanders. Probably they will commence about the first of the coming month, and will hardly be concluded before the latter portion of March. It is believed that these inspections will find the militia in an excellent state of drill and discipline, and in far better condition than last winter. Several companies are provided with unsuitable armories in Boston, and we understand that the committee on armories, on the part of the Board of Aldermen and Council, in conjunction with Adjutant-General Berry and Inspector-General Attwood, will make a tour of the armories, and, if possible, provide better quarters for a number of commanders. It is a lamentable fact that Boston has no regimental armory, and there seems little chance even in the future of obtaining such a necessity.

Lieut.-Col. W. M. Strachan was chosen Colonel of the Ninth regiment on Monday evening; Major L. J. Logan, Lieut.-Col., and Capt. Daniel J. Sweeney, of Co. H, Major. We congratulate Col. Strachan upon his promotion, for it is a high compliment to his character as a gentleman and his ability as an officer. May the same success attend his efforts in the regiment as in the late battalion.

Col. Wales is organizing his new regiment, and in General Orders No. 1, under date of January 12, Major Austin C. Wellington is assigned to the right battalion; Major William A. Smith to the centre, and Major Alfred B. Hodges to the left.

The rank of captains by seniority is as follows: Capt. Hawkes, 1; Capt. Morrissey, 2; Capt. Parkinson, 3; Capt. Weid, 4; Capt. Willard, 5; Capt. Sanders, 6; Capt. Morse, 7; Capt. Hersey, 8; Capt. Knowles, 9; Capt. Braley, 10 (two vacancies).

Ex-Adjutant Parkhurst, of the 4th Battalion was chosen Captain of Co. C, 1st regiment, on Monday evening. It is a good selection.

The election of Colonel and field officers in the 3d regiment occurs to-day at Springfield.

**CALIFORNIA.**—The cavalry battalion commenced another series of drills at its army in San Francisco on the 9th of January. The battalion is yet struggling with the rudiments of the drill, and its commander confines himself to the exercise of the very simplest movements in the schools of the company and battalion. The proceedings of the evening, while more interesting than the last, hardly deserve particular mention as a military spectacle. The battalion proposes to have some time in February a full dress inspection, on which occasion, no doubt, the military critic will find something worthy of remark.

The 1st and 2d regiments will shortly renew their drills. The 3d Infantry has secured quarters suitable for its occupation, and all but one of the companies are preparing to move in. It is hoped that as soon as they are fixed in their new place the colonel will start a series of battalion drills, as the regiment is greatly in need of instruction.

Co. D, 1st Infantry (Franklin Light Infantry as advertised on the posters about the city), gave an exhibition drill at Baldwin's Theatre Sunday evening, January 13, on the occasion of the benevolent of stage manager of the Theatre. We do not know why Col. Woodhams did not prevent this unseemly spectacle, especially, as we understand, it is in direct opposition to the traditions and moral sense of the regiment. Capt. Allen has just been commissioned commander of the company, and we hope this "affair" is not an specimen of his ideas of military propriety. If it is, some salutary restraint from superior authority would bring him and his company to a realizing sense of their deficiency.

Co. G, 3d regiment of Infantry, has unanimously re-elected Capt. Siebe, promoted Second Lieutenant Woobler to first, and Corporal Chas. Goetjen to second lieutenant. Co. H, of the 3d, has likewise retained Capt. Bigley.

Co. C, 1st Infantry, has promoted Lieut. Templeton to captain, C. P. Le Breton to first lieutenant, and C. G. Lidstrom to second lieutenant.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

—Co. F, 23d New York, will hold its annual reunion at the armory January 28.

—Second Lieutenant D. F. Appleton has been promoted captain of Co. F, 7th New York, vice Turner, resigned.

—Ex-Capt. S. Ellis Briggs, Co. K, 22d New York, is being pressed by the members to resume the active functions of the office.

—The Washington Greys, Troop B, 1st New York Division, will hold their annual reception at their armory, Forty-fifth street and Broadway, on February 21.

—The Cadet Corps, 23d New York are actively engaged in acquiring the rudiments of the soldier's duty. Company drills will be held on January 25 and February 7.

—The 47th New York will parade February 22 in honor of the Birthday of the Father of his country—that is if the full complement of new overcoats are received in time.

—Maj. A. C. Barnes, 23d New York, will preside at the court-martial for the trial of Priv. W. H. Macdonald, Co. B. Capt. Truslow has preferred special charges.

—The Committee on Militia in the Assembly, S. N. Y., this year are Messrs. Langbein, Strahan, Wadsworth, Sharpe, Trowbridge, Mann, Brennan, Douglass, and Broadhead.

—On Monday, January 20, Co. E, 33d New York, Capt. Schlegel commanding, celebrated the ninth anniversary of its organization at the armory.

—At the rifle practice of Co. G, 32d New York, at the armory, January 16, Corp. Leonard Lutz, who was acting as marker, was shot in the thigh. The ball glanced off the target.

—The annual ball of Separate Troop A, Maj. Karl Klein, on January 15, was perhaps the most successful ever given by the Troop. During the evening the marksmen's badges, 1878, were presented.

—Co. F, 10th New York, Albany (Harris Guard), held its annual reception and ball at its armory, State street, January 22. The National Guard Association were invited and many members attended.

—The Skidmore Guards, Maj. Andrew Brown, the best colored military organization in the State of New York, will have a grand banquet, reception and hop at the Lexington Avenue Opera House on January 31.

—Lieut. Chas. Heusman, Co. I, is to be the new adjutant of the 9th New York. He has acted in this capacity since the retirement of Col. Barlett, and has proved himself well qualified for the duties of executive officer of the regiment.

—The 71st New York are making preparations on an extensive scale for their annual celebration of Washington's Birthday. A drill, dress parade and review will be held at the State Arsenal, after which a reception will be given in the regimental armory.

—On the 16th January the 32d New York Veteran Association elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Daniel Kreider, President; Chas. Parker, Vice president; Alois von Koller, Secretary; and H. Gehling, Treasurer; Trustees—Fred. J. Karcher and S. R. Blumcke.

—The Albany (N. Y.) Sunday Press of January 17 says: Guardsmen in this city who desire to acquire a full knowledge of matters pertaining to the Army, Navy and State Guard, should secure the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* of New York. The last number contains several ably written articles upon subjects of general interest on the above branches of our government.

—The Veteran Association 71st New York has perfected its consolidated organization and elected the following officers for the year: Colonel, Henry T. Martin, 71st; Lieutenant-Colonel, Thos. Frechorn, 37th; Major, Amos L. See, 71st; Adjutant, Chas. H. Patrick, 37th; Quartermaster, J. F. Woolsey; Paymaster, W. N. Philbrick; Surgeon, Dr. C. McMillan; Assistant Surgeon, Dr. J. B. Reynolds; Commissary, Chas. E. Shade.

—The Carnival of the Belden Guards, Co. B, 51st New York (Syracuse) was one of the most joyous ever held in that city. The decorations were tasteful, music excellent, and management satisfactory. The costumes were most gorgeous, and the procession a complete success.

—The reception of the Roxbury City Guard, Massachusetts, was a complete success. One hundred couples were in attendance, including Col. Wales and staff. The floor was under the direction of Sergt. Clarke, assisted by Priv. Stoddard, the unique circular orders being presented by Adj. Lowell. Dancing was continued until 1 o'clock in the morning, the music of Edmund's band being appreciated by all.

—The annual ball of the Worcester Light Infantry, Co. C, 3d regiment M. V. M., Capt. Joseph P. Mason, on January 11, was another star to the already brilliant galaxy of the company's successes. The decorations—the hall being one of the handsomest in the country—were of the most chaste description, military emblems and monograms meeting the eye at each section of the room, and yet so harmonious as not to weary the spectator. The guests were of the most prominent of the State forces; while the costumes of the ladies, the bewitching lights, enchanting music, added to the glow and glitter of the uniforms, made of the ball room an enchanted bower. At the close of the concert the company gave a fine exhibition of the school of the company, after which Lieut. Leavitt, with a squad of twelve files, gave an illustration of the bayonet exercise according to Upton. Dancing was then commenced and continued to early morning.

—The Veteran Corps of the 9th New York met at the regimental armory January 20, Col. Wm. Scott in the chair. Major John T. Fryer, Chairman Committee on History, reported that unsuccessful efforts had been made to obtain data for a record of the regiment from its formation to the present time, and that it would be necessary to send to Albany to examine the official records in the Adjutant-General's office. On motion, a committee of two, consisting of Maj. Fryer and Lieut.-Col. Frazee, was appointed to go to Albany for the required information. The committee on badges to the company of the active regiment enlisting the greatest number of men during the year reported in favor of a gold medal depending from a bar upon which was the word "recruiting," while across the face of the medal was a representation of the regimental pl. Jerome Bernheimer, Marcus Bettman, M. J. Beaumont, and Capt. Henry Miller were elected members of the association.

—Capt. H. Wadsworth Clark, commanding Co. I, 51st New York, thus replies to what was said in the *JOURNAL* of January

11 as to his opinions on the subject of rifle practice. As a portion of his letter was intended for our business office we were not aware that it was intended for publication, or it would have appeared last week: "The paragraph in question is in no sense an argument against any opinion I may have expressed in my letter, which I think it would be perfectly fair for you now to publish, so that your readers may judge for themselves whether my ideas are so perfectly 'impotent and lame.' The letter referred to was not addressed to Gen. Wingate, but to our brigade I. R. P., and was called out by his rather unnecessary remarks in his report, as published in your columns about a month ago, upon the standing of the 51st regiment. There is an honest difference of opinion among soldiers as to the all-importance of rifle practice as promotive of efficiency in the soldier, particularly in him who has so little time to spend in perfecting himself in all the duties of the profession, as a member of the 'National Guard.' As to my standing in the National Guard, upon which your paragraph seems inclined to cast a slur (Capt. Clarke is mistaken as to this. There was no reflection on his standing in the National Guard in the paragraph referred to), I need say nothing further than that I am confident that my record of service in the National Guard, both in the ranks and as an officer in the Army during the Rebellion, will not compare unfavorably with that of any of my critics."

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* must decline to decide points between officers and the men of their commands. No attention paid to fictitious signatures, unless accompanied by real name and address of writer.

W. H. V. asks: Is Major-General Ewing, brother-in-law of General Sherman, still living? ANSWER.—General Thomas Ewing is a member of Congress from Ohio. General Hugh Ewing can be addressed care of General W. T. Sherman.

SERGEANT, Philadelphia, writes: In last week's issue of the *JOURNAL* I read a notice of a book entitled, "Hints and Helps to National Guardsmen." Will you please tell me where this book can be got and the price? ANSWER.—The work is not yet ready for distribution; when ready will be advertised in the *JOURNAL*.

M. T. asks: What is to be done with the enlisted men and the M. S. K. of Ordnance if the bill passes? ANSWER.—Should the bill pass without making any provision for the pay of storekeepers of Ordnance or enlisted men of the same we presume they would be discharged. But the bill has not passed, nor is there any likelihood of its passing in its present form.

CONSTANT READER asks: Where is the U. S. sloop-of-war *Adams* at the present time, and what time is she going out of commission, and at what naval station? ANSWER.—The *Adams* is now either at Callao, Peru, or on the way to Panama. It is uncertain when she will go out of commission. It is quite likely that those of her crew whose times are up will be sent home from Panama, and the vessel will proceed on to San Francisco.

SUBSCRIBER asks: Would you please inform me when, where and how the *Hornet* was lost? Was there any living witnesses to the fact at time of occurrence? It is true that much treasure was lost with her. ANSWER.—The *Hornet* was supposed to have been lost off Tampico, Mexico, about Sept. 10, 1829. None of her officers or crew ever turned up, and every soul on board is supposed to have perished. It is not known that she had valuable treasure on board, but probably nothing more than the paymaster would have to pay officers and crew for a few months.

6TH ARMY CORPS asks: Am I entitled to any extra bounty under act passed July 28, 1866, or any other bill? Enlisted May 26, 1861, and served faithfully my term, 3 years; was honorably discharged; was in all the battles of the last campaign, and at the surrender; was in 5th U. S. Artillery, 6th Army Corps. Received on enlistment \$400; \$300 cash down, and \$100 on my final statements. I received an injury to my right foot, which I never got over, and never healed. We were leaving Fort and my foot got caught between the stump of a tree and wheel of one of our caissons. Am I entitled to a pension? And finally, please inform me if I am entitled to any land from the Government? ANSWER.—Men enlisted previous to July 4, 1864, and who served 3 years, and were honorably discharged, are entitled to \$100 bounty under act of July 8, 1866. For full information concerning pensions, apply to Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, and for information concerning land warrants, apply to Commissioner, General Land Office, Washington.

N. C. STAFF says: In your issue of Dec. 7 you claim that the N. C. Staff unattached to regiments, or the General H. C. Staffs, consists of the Ordnance sergeant and commissary sergeant. In circular from the Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, D. C., it is decided that the hospital steward has the rank and emolument of "ordnance sergeants." This order bears the date of Nov. 16, 1867. The undersigned is in the Army ever since, but never heard that further orders in regard to this matter have been issued, and believe that stewards, ranking as ordnance sergeants, must belong to the N. C. Staff of the Army. If you know of any authority or order neutralizing above, please oblige. ANSWER.—The decision of the Adjutant-General of the Army in relation to the rank, pay, and emoluments of hospital stewards, was published in circular from the War Department, Surgeon-General's Office, Washington, Feb. 25, 1870, as follows: "The appointment of hospital stewards was authorized by Sec. 2, act of Congress of Aug. 16, 1856, and they were to be mustered and paid as non-commissioned officers, with the rank, pay, and emolument of ordnance sergeant. But the act of April 16, 1862, authorizing the appointment of additional hospital stewards, increased their pay to \$30 per month, which was again augmented by the act of June 20, 1869, to \$33 for first class, \$25 for second class, and \$23 for third class per month; and these were again changed by the bill of Mr. Wilson, approved May 15, 1872, to \$30, \$24, and \$20 per month, for the three classes." This decision and these rates of pay now govern. The joint commission bill gives the rank of first class hospital steward immediately after commissary sergeant.

THE N. Y. *Graphic* says: In August, 1877, the *Graphic* published a sketch showing the battle ground on the Little Big Horn, in Montana, where the gallant Custer lost his life. It was drawn expressly for the *Graphic* by an officer of the Army and was the first and only absolutely accurate sketch of the scene published up to that time. As an evidence of its accuracy we may say that in the trial of Major Reno at Chicago on charges arising from his action at the time of the battle, the *Graphic* sketch has been substituted for that of the Army Engineer Department and is used for reference by the court in the examination of witnesses. In a private letter, written by one of the witnesses to a friend, he says, speaking of the *Graphic* map: "Reno and all the officers say it gives the best idea of the ground of any map published. It is used by the court for reference, and will undoubtedly become a part of the record of the court, it having ranked out the map of the Engineer Department."

A SOLDIERS' and Sailors' Orphan Home has been established at Xenia, Ohio, which has 597 inmates and 33 others to report.

From a recent report made it appears that there are now in the British army of all arms, 5,738 English, 785 Scotch, and 1,386 Irish officers; 124,708 English, 13,235 Scotch, and 39,121 Irish non-commissioned officers and men.

#### THE RENO COURT OF INQUIRY.

THE first witness before the Reno Court of Enquiry was Lieut. Edw. Maguire, of the Engineer Corps, whose testimony is thus reported in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*:

Lieut. Maguire stated that the distance from Maj. Reno's position to that of Gen. Custer's was two and one-half miles and there was a timber belt 140 yards wide to his right. Maj. Reno's skirmish line, running along the left bank of the Little Big Horn along a timber belt reached to within a mile and a half of Custer. Maj. Reno's position was the highest in the neighborhood, aside from an intervening elevation of 150 feet. As to the distance Maj. Reno was from the Indian village, the witness could not say, owing to his uncertainty as to the exact location or dimensions of that village. The first dead body witness had found upon his examination on the afternoon of June 27 was within half a mile of the place where Gen. Custer had attempted to ford the river. This body was lying alone, there being none others within quite a distance. The witness then described as accurately as possible, which was not very decisive, Maj. Reno's position on the hill, and his forces along the ridge. He was unable to say whether they had been concentrated or scattered. He judged the ground occupied was about one-fourth of a mile in extent, distant from the Little Big Horn about three-eighths of a mile. His distance from his original line of skirmish was about one and one-quarter miles. It was perhaps 10 o'clock on the morning of the 27th of June, 1876, that the witness reached Maj. Reno's command. The first persons met were Officers Wallace and Hare, who came riding to meet witness and party. They did not appear to be much excited. On going up the hill, as Gen. Terry and the others rode up, witness heard loud shouting, and found officers and enlisted men much excited and frightened. There were tears in the eyes of some, and others expressed their excitement in their voices. Did not see Maj. Reno short of an hour after. Saw Col. Benteen and Capt. French, however, and they appeared calm. Maj. Reno appeared to be somewhat excited.

Cross-examined: When witness visited it, the plain on the left side of the Little Big Horn was unoccupied. Could not tell the extent of its former occupancy. There were but two lodges standing and a few "wickiups" scattered around. No, the design on his maps did not accurately represent the village. The topes there designated were only what witness supposed to be a representation of the probable size of the village. There was no evidence of there having been many Indian lodges in the belt of woods; did not know that the lodges were confined to that belt; could not fix the point where Maj. Reno was beyond that afforded by important information. Witness had no definite knowledge as to Gen. Custer's trail, but had designated it upon the map under a probable theory, having found the ground much tramped. It might have been done by Col. Benteen, and a detachment sent out to reconnoitre.

Redirect examination: The map was made by witness in his official capacity. It was neither usual nor expected that an officer should verify all the work done by his subordinates in making a survey. The men had received instructions how to proceed, and therefore he regarded the map as reliable, though it had not been compiled with the care he would have expended upon it had he known it would ever be used as in the present instance. Had procured the data for the map the afternoon of the 27th and the morning of the 28th. The ground marked by Gen. Custer's trail showed passages of a large body of troops. If the dotted lines did not show the actual ground traversed they showed the passes most easily moved over.

Recross: When witness saw Maj. Reno first it was an hour after witness had reached the hill. He appeared to be cool. The width of the river at the point crossed was between thirty and forty yards.

#### TESTIMONY OF LIEUT. WALLACE.

Lieutenant Wallace, who was the second witness, said in substance, according to the report telegraphed to the N. Y. *Herald*, that when the division of the command was made Colonel Benteen took B, H and K companies and companies and moved off to the left. He appearing over a hill, he did not see him again until after Reno's retreat. Reno took A, G and M companies, numbering about 110 to 115 men, and moved forward, at the order of Custer, to charge the Indians, being the understanding, at least of witness, that he (Custer) would support him (Reno). He knew of no arrangement for the reuniting of the commands. Custer had C, F, I and L companies, numbering about 235 men. He moved down the right bank of the river, and then crossed over and moved down the left, witness rode to the left of Reno. Lieutenant Hodges was killed, being between them. If there had been any orders to Reno from Custer other than to move forward and charge the Indians wherever found, witness would be likely to have heard them. He did not know of any one being sent back to Custer by Reno after he had crossed the river. He knew of two men, named McIlhenny and Mitchell, who were killed. The soldiers were armed with carbines and revolvers, no sabres. The revolvers were loaded, did not know how many additional rounds the men had; for the carbines they had fifty rounds on their bodies and the same number in their saddlebags. Custer's adjutant and Captain Kehoe started with Reno. Witness did not know when they turned back, but they must have done so, as their bodies were found with Custer's. Witness's company (G) had twenty new recruits in it, many of whom had never been on horseback until they started on that campaign. He had a good deal of trouble keeping them straight when they dismounted and formed the skirmish line; a fourth of the men were detailed as horse holders, and took the animals into the woods. Up to this time he had seen about two hundred Indians; but there was a large cloud of dust ahead indicating a much larger body of Indians, who were mounted and apparently on the "jump."

Mr. Gilbert asked Lieutenant Wallace to point out the position of the skirmish line in respect to the Indian village, and he replied that he couldn't do it on Lieutenant Maguire's map, as it was not accurate. There were about seventy-five men in the skirmish line and they were deployed about five yards apart. The Indians began to move around toward the ford where the troops had crossed, and at the same time a much larger number appeared in front. The skirmish line moved forward, the men firing at will until the right came to the little stream in front of the Indian village, then there was a halt and they remained in that position, firing until the left was obliged to fall back, then the centre line moved back. Major Reno took G company into the woods to reconnoitre. Lieutenant McIntosh, who was killed on the retreat, was with witness, who said he didn't think the troops could have been better handled than they were. I saw no indications of cowardice or unsoldierly conduct on the part of Major Reno. In the burial of that day Major Reno gave the required orders. The body of General Custer was found with several men about him, and around in that vicinity were twenty or thirty bodies. There were no indications of a prolonged struggle. He did not think that General Custer had time to make an effective stand; nor was the ground adapted to it. He did not believe the struggle had continued more than half an hour. The only indications of a prolonged struggle that were found on the battle field were where Captain Calhoun and his men were found. In the opinion of the witness, the only thing that Major Reno could have done after his skirmish line was forced back was to retreat, as he did. If he had remained in the timber to which the Major first retreated the troops would all have been killed. It was the duty of Major Reno, in the opinion of witness, to retreat to the opposite side of the river, in order to save his men. It was not necessary for a commanding officer to wait until a large number of his men had been killed before a retreat was ordered. An officer sent out as Major Reno was had, witness did not think he would have done so if he had been shaken with fear. At that time twenty-seven men had been killed, besides Dr. DeWolf and an interpreter. The pack train came up about an hour after Colonel Benteen arrived. A company was ordered out to meet them. It was in the direction toward where General Custer was found. A few preparations were made about this time to take the seven wounded men along with them in case the column was ordered to move. The column

was soon ordered to advance, but the officer in charge of the wounded sent word that he could not follow and they had to fall back. Major Reno led the command. Another reason why the column retreated was that heavy firing in the front prevented any advancing. They retired to the hill from which they had advanced, and where they remained on the afternoon of the 25th and the following day.

The disposition which Major Reno made of his troops the witness believed was as good as could have been effected. They had no rifle pits nor other protection, the men stretching themselves on the ground from six o'clock till dark. About nine o'clock a continuous fire was kept up by the Indians, and witness said he never saw heavier firing than then. During the night there was no firing. The men employed the time in making such rifle pits as they could with their spades and a few tin cups. On the morning of the 26th the firing again commenced, but it was at intervals, and it was in this way that it was kept up during the day. In the afternoon their position was changed somewhat, in order to escape the stench of the dead horses and men. In order to get water for the men they had to rush out at the mouth of a ravine and dash up what they could under a severe fire. About nine o'clock in the following morning, that is the 27th, a cloud of dust was seen rising in the distance when it was learned that it was General Terry. Witness was sent out to meet him and direct him to where Major Reno and his troops were.

Mr. Gilbert asked what conversation witness had with General Terry, and in reply he said that after explaining Major Reno's condition and position he asked General Terry where Custer was. He was told that the General and his men were killed. This was the first intimation Lieutenant Wallace received of General Custer's fate. It had been the opinion of the men with Major Reno that General Custer had been defeated and had retreated to meet General Terry and left them (Reno's men) to their fate.

The cross-examination of the witness closed with the following question:

Mr. Gilbert—Search your memory through and recall what you deem a cowardly action on the part of Major Reno.

Lieutenant Wallace—I can remember nothing of the kind; not a single act of cowardice.

Mr. Gilbert—Did Major Reno lose any time in moving from the hill top in the direction in which Lieutenant Colonel Custer was afterward found after the pack train had come up?

Witness—No, sir; I do not think he did; ammunition had to be distributed after the train came up, and it is my impression that he went as soon as he could practically do so.

Mr. Gilbert—Bearing in mind the belt of timber you had to cross and the hill you had to climb, was the point on the bluffs that Major Reno occupied as well situated for procuring water as any he could have reached under those circumstances?

Witness—Well, it is my opinion that it was.

Mr. Gilbert asked the witness how, as a soldier, he regarded the separation by General Custer of his forces into different divisions. To this the Recorder objected on the ground that General Custer's conduct was not being considered. Mr. Gilbert then called attention to that part of Captain Whitaker's letter which said that Major Reno's was the only official report of the battle, and that libellously reflected upon General Custer's generalship in dividing his forces. Further discussion followed. At length the court was ordered to be closed. The decision which was reached, after considerable delay, was that the question should be allowed.

#### CUSTER'S ORDER.

In reply to the Recorder, the witness said that the time of day at which Lieutenant Cook gave General Custer's order to charge the Indians was, he believed, a quarter after two o'clock in the afternoon; the commands of Major Reno and Captain Benteen joined at the hill an hour and a half later; the time Lieutenant Cook delivered the order from General Custer was the last the witness saw of the General's command. General Custer was probably fighting when Reno and Benteen met; the amount of ammunition Reno's men had when he began his retreat across the river he was unable to state; there was then no complaint of a lack of ammunition; before or during the fight the witness supposed that Captain Benteen was to the left and rear; he did not know whether or not General Custer's order, in which he said support would be given them, referred to Captain Benteen; he supposed, however, that General Custer himself intended to support Major Reno; in his statement that the troops under Major Reno were not well disciplined he did not intend to say they were inefficient, but should have been drilled more than they were; Lieutenant Maguire's map the witness considered was the best he had seen, but by it he would be unable to recognize the country; the relative positions were sufficiently accurate, but the topography was not at all correctly indicated; he saw Major Reno in both the timber and the small lake, but he could not say how often; in crossing the bottom the witness himself had assisted a wounded man to keep up, as did also others; he did not know who was the first officer to cross the river on the retreat; during that retreat twenty-seven men were killed; he did not know whether these men were killed outright or wounded and left on the field; Major Reno led the column that went down to the position occupied by Captain Wier; the witness said he had never seen so large a body of Indians as that which composed the village they attacked; from information he had received from Indians witness based his belief that there were 9,000 warriors; there were 1,800 lodges, five or six warriors to each lodge, besides many wicki-ups; he was unable to give an estimate of the number of the women and children. This finished Lieutenant Wallace's testimony.

#### SCOUT GIRARD'S STORY.

After a recess of a few minutes Lieutenant Lee next called Girard, the Indian scout. The witness said that on the morning of the 25th he was serving under the immediate orders of General Custer; that the General ordered him to join Major Reno, with his scouts; indications that the Indians were in the vicinity the interpreter had discovered that morning, and had, so informed General Custer by hallooing to him from a hill. "Here are Crow Indians running like devils!" About eleven o'clock on the evening of the 24th General Custer called the witness to him and told him to take two Indian scouts, Half Yellow Face and Bloody Knife, with him and ride with General Custer at the head of the column; in conversation with the General the witness told him that he believed there were 2,500 Indians in that vicinity; the General did not wish much attention given on the march to small bodies of Indians, but to attack only the large force; the order given on that morning to Major Reno by General Custer the witness overheard; it was, "Rush the Indians, charge them when found, and we will support you," adding, also, "Take the scout with you." General Custer's column and that of Major Reno were nearly parallel to each other and nearly together about twelve o'clock on that day; somewhat later the interpreter, seeing Indians ahead, rode back to report to General Custer; meeting Colonel Cook, he gave the report to him and then went back to Major Reno. The witness then described the advance of Major Reno's column and went into minute detail, describing how and when he took a glass of whiskey with Reynolds, another scout. Some time after the skirmish a line was formed and the witness saw the Indians to the East; riding to the top of a knoll, he saw Reynolds partially thrown from his horse, being dragged by the stirrups; the scout had lost his carbine and the witness saw him no more alive; Girard himself stationed to General Custer to defend himself as best he could; after the witness met Colonel Cook he in a few minutes was again with Major Reno; no enemy opposed the advance of the column; the skirmish line was formed before the first Indian reached it; which side fired the first shot the witness was unable to state. The Indians, when the command of Major Reno halted before forming his skirmish line, were in the front and to the left. The village was a mile or more from the place where the line was formed. After leaving the skirmish line the troops went to the timber, probably remaining there ten minutes. The troops were in complete disorder. While there every man for himself was hurrying to get out. The Indians were firing upon them, but there was no general engagement. The soldiers went by the witness, as they retreated, on a gallop, telling him they were going to charge the Indians. Only five men were left in the woods, the witness being one of them. It was nine o'clock when the witness left the command left. The witness knew this was the time, for he looked at his watch. At nine o'clock, then twilight, the witness and those with him left the timber. Major Reno's position was a sheltered one, in the timber, in the opinion of the witness.

After Major Reno left the timber the witness heard continuous firing at the place which subsequently proved to be the Custer battle field. From the firing the witness knew the troops were advancing. At last the firing became heavier, when the troops

apparently came to a standstill at the point where General Custer's body was found. The general firing continued about two hours. Occasional shots were heard till dark. This was occasioned by the custom the Indians have of shooting even the dead. From all the scout saw of the hostile Indians he judged that they numbered from 2,500 to 3,000 fighting men. A boy, he said, old enough to handle a gun, from thirteen to fifteen years old, was classed among the warriors. It was one o'clock when Major Reno left the woods. Only ten or fifteen minutes before the witness saw General Custer's command in a southerly direction from where Major Reno was. He supposed, at least, that it was General Custer's column, for General Custer had about time to reach the place where he saw the troops. The command was moving very rapidly at the time. He afterward learned where Colonel Benteen had led his men, so that he knew that it must have been General Custer.

Mr. Girard did not see more than two hundred and fifty Indians attempting to gain the rear of Major Reno while he was in the woods. Indeed, the witness did not believe that the Indians approached nearer than within one hundred yards when Reno was in the timber. The witness said he had seen a good deal of Indian fighting during the past twenty-one years. The Indians would be most apt to attack their foe on open grounds. A command of 100 men with 100 rounds of ammunition, while in the woods where Major Reno was, could have held out against the number of Indians opposed to them as long as their provisions or ammunition lasted. The witness did not know how much ammunition Major Reno had, but he thought from thirty to forty rounds to a man. He himself fired thirteen shots, but he lost five minutes. Going over the battle-field of the Little Big Horn he discovered the ford where it has been stated that the General was repulsed. He found indications that at least a portion of the force had crossed, for he discovered two dead bodies and dead horses. This ford was one mile and a half from Major Reno's position on the hill.

#### COMMODORE EDWARD PREBLE.

##### OPERATIONS OF THE FLEET BEFORE TRIPOLI IN 1804.

We publish herewith the principal portion of the very interesting paper read at the last meeting of the Naval Institute by Prof. J. R. Soley, U. S. N. It is intended to furnish the necessary commentary and supplement to the original journal of Commodore Preble, which is to appear with this paper in the forthcoming proceedings of the Institute. Prof. S. alludes briefly to the two unsuccessful expeditions against Tripoli, under Dale and Morris, preceding that under Preble, which taught the insolent Pasha a lesson not to be forgotten. Preble's previous career is next briefly sketched, including his service in 1777 at the age of 16 on a letter-of-marque, his career as a midshipman in the service of Massachusetts during the Revolution, in command of a merchant ship for 15 years, and until he was commissioned in 1798 a lieutenant on the new organization of the Navy, his promotion to captain while in command of the Pinckney, Barry's squadron, during the French war, and his subsequent transfer to the Essex, which was the first American cruiser to round the Cape of Good Hope, as she was later, under Porter, the first to go around Cape Horn. In 1803 Preble was ordered to the Constitution to take the place of Commodore Morris before Tripoli. "The discipline of the little squadron under him was," Prof. Soley tells us, "worthy of Sir John Jervis; it was the training school of the war of 1812, as the seven years' war had been that of the Revolution; a school in which Stewart and Decatur, Hull and Morris, Lawrence and MacDonough, got their best lessons in the duties of officers." He continues:

When Preble arrived out in the Constitution in September, 1803, he found in the Mediterranean the fragment of Commodore Morris's squadron, which had not yet gone home. Commodore Rodgers, who was a commander of these vessels, co-operated with his successor in a movement against Morocco to check the hostile demonstrations lately made by that State. By the middle of October matters were arranged in this quarter; Rodgers took his ships home, and Preble went to Gibraltar. It was too late in the season for active demonstrations, but the new force had to be put in order and disciplined for the work of the next summer, and meantime the blockade was to be kept up. Preble had now under his command two frigates, the Constitution, his own personal command, and the Philadelphia, under Bainbridge; two brigs, the Argus, under Hull, and the Siren, under Stewart, of 16 guns each, and three schooners, the Neutilus, Vixen, and Enterprise, commanded respectively by Somers, Smith, and Decatur. After the peace with Morocco, all of these, except the Siren, which was sent to Leghorn on convoy duty, and the Philadelphia and Vixen, which were blockading Tripoli, met at the rendezvous at Gibraltar to receive instructions for the winter.

It was soon after this, on the last day of October, that the Philadelphia met with the accident that resulted in her capture. . . . Besides the loss of the frigate itself, which was fully one-third of his force, there was the additional loss of the officers and men, and complicated questions would arise in regard to ransom, increasing the difficulty of securing a peace honorable to the United States. It was a stroke at the outset that would have daunted any but the most resolute; but it only stimulated Preble to greater energy and effort.

The capture of the Philadelphia and the necessity of keeping the Argus at Gibraltar to watch the Moors and guard the straits, left a working force of one brig and three schooners, beside the flagship. The Argus was the best of the smaller vessels, and her absence weakened the force seriously. The Philadelphia was in the enemy's hands in almost as good condition as before the accident. The city of Tripoli was amply protected by its batteries mounting over 100 heavy guns, and by a flotilla. The approaches to the city were intricate and dangerous, and the Tripolitans knew every shoal and hidden rock and winding passage, while the charts used by our ships were incomplete and inaccurate. The officers of the squadron were men of comparatively little experience, and nearly all unknown to Preble before they reported to him for this service. To bring this force to the highest state of efficiency, and then to carry it into action with the smallest risk and the best results, was now Preble's task. Evidently it called for the exercise of faculties quite different from those which won the victories of the former wars, a power of combination, a clear judgment, a faculty of rapid organization, a wise foresight, and that keen perception of individual character, which enables a man to choose the best men for the work, and to find some kind of useful work for everybody. It

needed an active organizer, a prudent but resolute commander, and an exacting disciplinarian; a man who left no loose ends about his own work and who would not allow them in the work of any one else.

Preble was on the alert from the first. He fixed his rendezvous at Syracuse, on the 1st of December; and immediately set on foot arrangements to carry on a secret correspondence with Bainbridge, which was kept up through the year, with great advantage to the squadron. He sent an agent to Malta to act with Pulis, the United States Consul at that place, in forwarding supplies and provisions to Bainbridge.

The Constitution, with the Enterprise in company, sailed soon afterwards for Tripoli, to reconnoitre. On the way back, about Christmas, the Enterprise captured a Tripolitan ketch, called the Mastico. She had previously been a French gunboat, and Preble took her into the service as a tender, and named her the Intrepid. Meantime the other vessels had arrived at Syracuse, and Preble after giving orders and making arrangements that would keep every body busy during his absence, sailed in the Vixen to Malta, to send letters and stores to Bainbridge.

Preble returned to Syracuse about the end of January. By this time he had fully arranged a plan for the destruction of the Philadelphia. Whether the project originated with him or with Bainbridge, Decatur, or Stewart, is not of much consequence. It was a subject, doubtless, about which every one in the squadron had thought and talked in the two months during which they had been lying in port. Bainbridge suggested it in a letter, written in December, and Decatur before this had volunteered for the expedition. Afterwards Stewart, the lieutenant in command of the Siren, offered to go in, but Preble had already promised the first volunteer.

Decatur was at this time 24 years old, and had been only five years in the service. His father, Captain Stephen Decatur, was the commander of the Delaware during the French war, when she took the Croyable, the first capture of the war. His son had been studying at the University of Pennsylvania, and had afterwards gone into a counting house; but his eagerness to enter the Navy led Commodore Barry to get him a warrant as midshipman in 1798, when the United States was fitting for sea at Philadelphia. When he joined the ship he was 19 years old, and without any sea training whatever. In his cruise in the West Indies he made such progress that he was promoted to lieutenant the next year. All the good opportunities of the French war fell to Truxton, and Barry's cruise was without any striking events. It was perhaps as well for Decatur, who had so much to learn of the routine of his profession, that he should have had this uninterrupted cruise for study and practice with so good a master. He made such good use of his time that two years after, when the Essex was fitting out for a cruise in Dale's squadron, Bainbridge chose him as 1st lieutenant. Dale returned in December, 1801, and in March, 1802, Decatur sailed as 1st lieutenant of the New York, under Capt. James Barron, in Morris's squadron. Next year he came home, and after two months' respite he took command of the Argus, and brought her out to the Mediterranean to join Preble. On his arrival he took command of the Enterprise, exchanging with Hull who was his senior. Though he had only had five years in the Navy, they were years of almost uninterrupted sea service, under the best captains.

Commodore Preble returned from Malta about the 1st of Feb., and Decatur received his orders on the 3rd to proceed to the harbor of Tripoli. He was to take the Intrepid, with 75 officers and men of his own selection, and the Siren was to go with him to support and cover his retreat. Decatur made his choice of men from his schooner, the Enterprise, all on board volunteering for the expedition. He took all his lieutenants, Lawrence, Jos. Bainbridge, a younger brother of Capt. Bainbridge, and Thorn; and one midshipman, Macdonough. Five midshipmen were picked out by Commodore Preble to go with him. Among them Izard and Charles Morris. Decatur's preparations were made in a few hours, and on the evening of the day on which the orders were issued the Intrepid and Siren sailed for Tripoli.

After a voyage of four days they arrived in sight of the city, but a storm came up and kept them off a week longer. On the afternoon of the 16th, they came once more in sight of Tripoli, and the wind being light and favoring, Decatur made up his mind to attack that night. The boats of the Siren were to join him, but the brig stood off to keep out of sight, and her boats did not come up in time; or rather Decatur, fearing delay, was unwilling to wait for them, and prepared to make the attack alone.

The Philadelphia was lying in the inner harbor close to the batteries on the castle, the mole-head and the New Fort, and within easy range of all the other batteries of the harbor. She mounted 40 guns, which were kept loaded, and a full complement of men was on board to serve them. Close by, between her and the shore lay three Tripolitan cruisers and twenty gunboats and galleys, all of them fully manned and in readiness. To attack this force Decatur had a ketch of 60 tons, mounting 4 small guns; and with a crew of 70 men.

About 9 o'clock the Intrepid entered the harbor. The surf, breaking in the narrow western passage after the gale of the last week, compelled her to take the northern entrance. There was a faint moonlight, and the view seaward was unobstructed. As the Intrepid sailed slowly in under a light breeze, she could be seen some time before she reached the frigate. The crew lay hidden under the bulwarks. Only two or three officers were to be seen on deck, Decatur and the pilot standing by the helm. When the ketch had come within 30 yards of the Philadelphia, she was hailed and ordered to keep off. Owing to her Tripolitan rig, and to the fact that her Sicilian pilot, Catalano spoke the Tripolitan language, no suspicion was

aroused by the answer that she had lost her anchors in the gale, and the request to be allowed to run a warp to the frigate and ride by her during the night. During the talk lines were made fast to the bow and stern of the Philadelphia by boats from the two vessels. The suspicions of the Tripolitan boat's crew were aroused, and as the people of the Intrepid began to haul on the lines and the ketch came close, they suddenly gave the alarm. But before a gun could be fired, Decatur cried "board," and he and Morris sprang upon the deck of the Philadelphia. In an instant 60 of the officers and crew of the Intrepid followed, climbing over the rail, and through the ports and gangway, wherever they could. The Tripolitan crew were panic struck for the moment, and gathered on the fore-castle. Decatur waited coolly until he had got all his men together, and formed them—it took but an instant—and then, at their head, he made for the enemy. The struggle was short and decisive. Those who resisted were cut down, and the rest jumped overboard precipitately. The attacking party at once separated and went below to the stations which had been assigned them, carrying everything before them. About twenty of the enemy were killed. In five minutes Decatur found himself in complete possession of the frigate, without a man killed, and only one slightly wounded.

The temptation to try to bring the Philadelphia out must have been strong, but Preble's orders on the subject were explicit. She was set on fire in half a dozen places at once; and the Americans, only waiting until they could see that the work was thoroughly done, returned to the Intrepid, and shoved off from the burning ship. There was no time to be lost. Though no shots had been fired in the engagement, yet the alarm had been given, and many boats put out from the shore and from the Tripolitan vessels. In their uncertainty and hesitation they were slow in forming for an attack. With the help of the sweeps and a slight land breeze which had sprung up, the Intrepid got away from the boats and the burning frigate, the neighborhood of which was becoming dangerous. She was now a mass of flames, and the magazines must explode in a moment. The bright light showed exactly the position of the ketch, and all the shore batteries opened fire upon her. Presently the Philadelphia drifted in towards the castle, with her broadside towards the town, and as her guns, loaded and double-shotted, became heated, they discharged their contents among the enemy. The Intrepid received one shot in her top gallant sail, but was otherwise uninjured. Presently she met the boats of the Siren, and in a few moments more the Philadelphia blew up.

When the news of Decatur's exploit reached home, he was immediately promoted; and thus he had the extraordinary honor, which has fallen to the lot of no officer of our Navy before or since, of being a full captain at the age of twenty-five. [We shall publish the concluding portion of this article another week—EDITOR.]

#### EX-SECRETARY ROBESON'S DEFENCE.

EX SECRETARY ROBESON appeared before the House Naval Committee on the 10th of January, to testify in his own defence. As to the charge that the appropriations had been exceeded he replied that this was due to the necessity for prompt action at the time of the *Virginia* scare, when his attention was drawn to the weakness of the Navy for coast defence, and he was alarmed to find that the coast was at the mercy of any power, however weak, that had expended a portion of its money in the construction of ironclad vessels. When he came before Congress in regard to the *Virginia* affair he had suggested the propriety of repairing the double turreted monitors, as being more powerful and better seagoing vessels than the single turret monitors. With them there would be an effective fleet for defence. The Appropriation Committee favored the plan and transferred an old appropriation for an iron dock to that purpose. The work was entered upon and was found to be too large to be done under one contract, and the first contracts were limited to putting the ships in frame. The old wooden frames had rotted, and iron frames were substituted in accordance with more modern ideas. The work was distributed among the best shipbuilders of the country. It was necessary that it should be done in the best manner, and propositions were invited from those competent to do the work and they bid for it. Then the Bureau of Construction made its own proposition, and said if they would come down to it they could have the work.

It was said these contracts were not advertised for. It has never been held in the Navy Department or anywhere that the law which required advertisements for supplies covered the building of ships, machinery or boilers. It has always been construed that these did not come under the head of supplies. They were too important and too complicated to be made the subject of competition in the matter of cost as a prime consideration. A great ship laden with Government property might be sent out, and no amount of bonds would compensate for defective boilers or machinery.

Another objection seemed to be that the ships were practically rebuilt. This was not an unusual thing. The country would have had a right to complain had any of the old defects been retained.

The contracts were made dependent upon appropriations—that is, contractors took the risk of the appropriations being required for other purposes. He believed at the time that the appropriations would be sufficient, and thinks now that they would have been but for the exigencies growing out of the threatened intervention of the United States in the affairs of Cuba, which led to the concentration in October, November, and December, 1875, of all of our available vessels at Port Royal. Had it not been for this unexpected demand upon the funds of the department these second contracts would have been settled.

In this connection he read a letter from ex-Secretary

Fish, dated Dec. 31, 1878, in which that gentleman states that Mr. Robeson, in his previous testimony in relation to this matter, had not overstated the critical situation at that time.

The third class of contracts were made under his order of March 2, 1877, with a special proviso that if Congress made no appropriations the United States should be in no wise liable. The ships were in the yards in the way of the builders, who said they desired to finish and get them out of the way, and were willing to take the risk of payment, but could not do so unless the department gave the order and furnished the necessary specifications and plans. He was about going out, and as he had begun the ships, to relieve his successor of any responsibility, he gave the order. He had consulted the Attorney-General, who said the contracts were not illegal. A like policy of making contracts dependent upon appropriations was practised in the Treasury Department. For instance, all the stone for a building must be embraced in the first contract, though but a small part be appropriated for, because it must all come from one quarry. He informed his successor the first hour he came into office of his action, and explained that he had taken it to relieve him of responsibility in the matter, and Secretary Thompson had told him he had not suspended the orders on account of illegality, but to avoid any financial embarrassments in connection with them.

The sale of old material was made pursuant to an understanding with the Committee on Appropriations of the 45d Congress. The question was whether the application in this way was equivalent to the use contemplated by section 1541 of the Revised Statutes, that law being supplemental to the general authority vested in the Secretary of the Navy. He stated to the committee that if he could so dispose of the old material he could get along with less appropriation. The discussion in the committee was free, and it was the conclusion of the committee that he could so use the old material. One member suggested a clause in the bill authorizing it in terms, to remove doubt, but it was not considered necessary, and it was agreed and understood that he should go on, and the appropriations were reduced, being based on this understanding. The details were left to the bureau, and in no instance did he interfere with the transfer of the material or the fixing of the price. That would have been interfering with the work of experts. He then quoted from testimony before the committee to show that when this class of material had been sold at auction it had brought but about twenty-five per cent. of the appraisement, while by this method of disposing of it the Government had realized more than the appraisement.

#### CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. WHITTHORNE.

Mr. Whitthorne—In any report made to Congress did you ever state that the old ships (double turret monitors) were to be destroyed and new ones built? A. In every report on the subject it was stated that they would be required to be substantially rebuilt.

Q. Had the *Puritan* ever been condemned? and if not, how was her destruction authorized? A. I think she had been condemned; she had been known to be unfit for use for several years.

Q. Can you name half a dozen that have been rebuilt entirely? A. I cannot name the vessels.

Q. What have you to say in excuse of purchases of supplies other than ships' engines and boilers? A. I suppose they were made by bureau officers under what they considered authority of law in emergencies.

Q. Has it been stated by you that the indebtedness of your department was incurred previous to December, 1875, when the complications arose? A. The contracts were out before, but payments had not been made and the appropriations were applied as stated.

Q. Do you know whether in reporting the Appropriation bill or at any other time Gen. Garfield or Mr. Hale stated to Congress the proposed use of the old materials? A. I do not.

Q. Did not Mr. Hale claim for your administration a reduction of expenditures? A. I do not remember.

Q. Did you ever make a report to Congress of the sale of the double turret monitors? A. No; because I never made such a sale.

Q. Did you ever make a report to Congress of the sale of the *Serra*, *Roanoke*, and other vessels? A. I suppose they were reported; they are reported in the Register, but whether in any document laid before Congress I cannot state positively without referring to my report.

Mr. Whitthorne said the resolution of Feb. 3, 1868, authorizing the sale of ironclads and requiring a report to be made to Congress of such sales, amounts realized, the names of parties to whom sold and requiring the proceeds to be turned in to the Treasury.

Mr. Robeson (interrupting)—I do not think I ever sold anything under that resolution; never sold any ironclads except some tinclads sold at New Orleans, which sold for very little, and the money was turned into the Treasury.

To Mr. Hanna—In disposing of the old material there was an honest and earnest endeavor to utilize it to the very best interest of the Government, and I believe the bureau officers were actuated by the same motives. When before the Committee on Appropriations of the 43d Congress there was no dissent by any member of the committee on either side. The only question raised was whether it was necessary to insert a clause to make the authority explicit, and it was decided that it was unnecessary. He had himself felt some doubts, and in the summer of 1876 gave orders that no more old material should be used that way, but it appears there has been. The delivery from the Boston yard was made without his knowledge. He did not know of the delivery until after he had gone out of office. The contract was made by the bureau, and he desired to say here that he had never made a contract; had always left that to the bureau. He has never interfered with the details of contracts. The bureau system in the Navy Department was a system of experts. No ordinary man could go in and exercise the functions of all the bureaus.

Mr. Robeson also explained the purchase of the ferry boat *Burlington* at Philadelphia. When the *Burlington* was purchased it was arranged that a note taken from her owners as memorandum of the amount remaining due on their previous purchase of a dock at a high price, should be applied on it, and the Purchasing Paymaster paid them \$27,000, which with the \$10,000 note and \$2,000 charter money made \$39,000, leaving \$1,000 still due.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### FROM FORT ABRAHAM LINCOLN TO FORT CUSTER.

FORT A. LINCOLN is situated on the west bank of the Missouri River, about six miles from Bismarck, which is quite an important town, being the terminus of the U. P. R. R. Fort Lincoln is one of the most desirable posts in the Far West. It can scarcely be called the frontier, so great is the progress being made towards civilization. Lincoln is the Headquarters of the 7th Cavalry, commanded by Gen. S. D. Sturgis. There are also at Lincoln several companies of the

17th Infantry and the 6th Infantry. The cavalry quarters are on the plain just above the river. The infantry occupy the upper post, Lincoln on the Hill.

On the 28th of July, 1878, we took the steamer *Durfey*, at Bismarck, for a trip up the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers, intending to be absent two or three weeks. The first garrison we came to after leaving Bismarck was Ft. Stevenson, a very comfortable little post, where several companies of the 6th Infantry are stationed. A few miles further up the river is an Indian agency, Berthold, formerly Fort Berthold. These Indians are friendly, and to some extent civilized. We arrived at Fort Buford the first day of August, and were delightfully entertained by the officers and ladies of the garrison. We had to change boats there, as the *Durfey* did not run on the Yellowstone.

Fort Buford is at the mouth of the Yellowstone. It is the Headquarters of Gen. Hazen's regiment, the 6th Infantry. The post is built in a peculiar style. It was intended originally to be occupied by cavalry and infantry. It has two distinct parade grounds, one on the north, the other on the south side of the quarters. The buildings are all one story, even the house of the commanding officer. At a short distance from the garrison are the remains of old Fort Union. The country is exceedingly barren around Buford, and the climate must be very severe in winter, as the Dakota winds have full sway over a broad expanse of land and water. No one who has not seen the Missouri can conceive of its muddy density. The Yellowstone is quite as muddy, but the scenery is remarkable. It is impossible to realize the extent of the Bad Lands unless one has seen them or knows something of their remarkable character. They are immense mountains of clay, almost white, scarred and furrowed, forming the grandest castles and forts to all appearances, yet for miles no living thing is seen; scarcely a bird passes over those barren hills. The bluffs are singular in appearance. The clay is almost white, with broad bars of black and red at intervals. The black is lignite, but I could not discover what the red was.

We had expected to reach Fort Keogh on the fifth day after leaving Buford, but the sixth day found us only at Wolf Rapids, the worst and only dangerous place on the river. We remained there all night, and to pass the time we went ashore to look for petrifactions, and one of the party found a bottle containing a scout's pass, given by Lieut. Hoppin, at Fort Custer, and dated a year back. On the reverse side was written with a burnt match: "To any one who may find this. We are surrounded by Indians." Then a few more words and two names, but we could not decipher them.

We reached Fort Keogh on the 13th of August, just sixteen days from the time we left Bismarck. General Miles received us at the landing. He is a fine looking man, tall, dignified, with handsome features, rather cold in appearance and manner, but an ideal soldier and an elegant gentleman. An old soldier, one who was wounded in the Nez Percé fight, after asking about our impression of General Miles, said: "He is just like a father to us all." Fort Keogh is a delightful post. The situation is very picturesque. It is at the mouth of the Tongue River and surrounded on all sides by high buttes. Tongue River Butte can be seen for miles; it is the highest in that part of Montana, and is used as a signal station. The garrison is built in the form of a diamond. The quarters are pretty little cottages. A brick pavement extends around the entire garrison. The bricks were burned at Keogh. You may imagine the luxury of a brick pavement in the wilds of Montana. Along the banks of the river there are cotton trees, the only tree of any size that we saw in Dakota or Montana. Gen. Miles has caused six thousand of these young cotton trees to be planted around the garrison, forming drives. There is Yellowstone Avenue and Rosebud Avenue, which winds in and out along the banks of the Tongue River. The trees are watered every morning and evening. A short distance out of the garrison is the Indian village of Sioux and Cheyennes, who are prisoners since the Custer massacre. They seem to be comfortable and have great confidence in Gen. Miles. Their gardens are very fine, and neatly fenced in with wicker to prevent the ponies from trampling the vegetables.

THE ARMY AS CONSERVATORS OF VIRTUE—"C. O. P." who writes to the *Pioneer Press*, from Sisseton Agency, D. T., on the subject of the Indians, says: "I ride over this reservation, in my professional duties, with as great a sense of security as I ever did in Iowa. I partake of their hospitality and entertain them at my table with as much satisfaction as I have a large proportion of my patrons in former fields of labor. And this is the direct result of the civilizing influences of Christianity, which is fostered and forwarded by the present policy of the Indian bureau, all unchristian and uncharitable criticisms of the 'policy,' notwithstanding. I should count a transfer now as more than taking a step backward—I should count it as a serious catastrophe. I have been conversant, in a measure, with Army administration, both during the war and since, and have been officially connected with the Army service, and I have yet to learn that the soldiery or officers even, are exceptionally moral and trustworthy. I would not detract one iota from the just esteem in which the Army is held. They are brave, some of them, hardy men, and deserve our good will and confidence; but to claim for them that they are the conservators of virtue and integrity, as well as of public peace, seems, in the light of actual facts, too much of a burlesque to be palmed off on a reading, observing public. I will not enter into details of the immorality of camp life, which I and many others have witnessed, as that is not part of my present purpose. But any fair-minded reader will admit, what is a too notorious fact, that Army life does not tend to 'civilize, educate, and Christianize' the soldiers; much less will it do so in the case of the Indians."

(Contributed to the Army and Navy Journal.)

## "SEA FOAMS," OR "NAVAL YARNS."—NO. XI.

## THE GHOST!

"WHAT is it, Lovejoy?"

There was a crowd on the fore-castle of the frigate *Congress*. Men from all parts of the ship were listening intently to Lovejoy's narrative. The captain of the fore top, a young man whose thorough knowledge of his profession, activity aloft, and whose good nature had endeared him to the crew, had just come from between decks, and had asked the question.

"What is it?" replied Lovejoy. "I say it is undeniable, it will be sworn to by many men-o'-war's-men."

"A ghost?"

"Yes, a ghost!"

"Go on, then; and if you, shipmates, will permit it, I am sure Lovejoy will not refuse to begin his yarn, to give us, newcomers, the benefit of it."

"Take my affidavit for it, it is so, it occurred as follows:"

In 183-, the line of battle ship *Columbus* was the receiving ship at Boston. She was a staunch craft of 80 guns, though called a 74. She was as neat as a bright pin, and disciplined by 'Bully' Wilson, than whom no better officer ever handled ship.

The civil law was all powerful in those days. The Navy and Army boys had to stand aside, and bow to the big silver-head cane when it was shaken at them by the Marshal and Sheriff. 'Taint so now; the military have a little more to say than they are entitled to by the Constitution.

There was an unruly character on board the ship; a good sailor; one addicted to drink, and when in that condition a ruffian. His name was Robert Brown.

"I know'd him," said a quarter gunner, "we were shipmates."

One day liquor had been smuggled on board, it had reached Brown and made him tipsy. His tongue was loosened; he became insubordinate. He was placed in the brig, but was so violent that the captain gave orders to the sentry, "that in event of Brown's attacking him to use his bayonet."

Private Marine Clark had been but a short time in the country. He had served in several European armies; he knew the result of disobedience of orders. He was not aware of the little power possessed by the military in the United States. Brown struck him, censored, and Clark passed his bayonet through him.

The coroner was summoned, a verdict was rendered that Brown came to his death at the hands of Michael Clark, a marine in the United States Navy.

The Governor of Massachusetts made a demand for Clark's body. He was tried by the civil authorities, found guilty of the murder of Brown, condemned to death, and executed. While he was in irons, in the brig, awaiting the decision of the U. S. authorities, he was frequently visited by his wife and child. Mrs. Clark was a pretty, neat, sad little woman, devoted to her husband. She clung to him till the last. It would have made one blubber to have seen her when she was desponding. Her husband was executed. She became insane. But as she was inoffensive, indeed harmless, she was permitted to roam about. She invariably directed her steps to the boat landing at the Navy-yard, Boston, went on board the *Columbus* and down to the forward passage, where her husband had been confined. There she would sit with her child in her lap until time came to go on shore.

One day she had been in the fore passage about ten minutes, when the yeoman, coming from the store room, observed her sitting there, her head thrown back, and very pale. He spoke to her, but not receiving an answer, placed his hand on her's. It was icy cold—she was dead—and the child was playing with her curls.

Many sailors were allowed to follow her to her grave. Singular to say, they all returned sober and cheerful. The child became the property of the *Columbus*' crew. He was adopted by them.

A month had elapsed. The boat to general quarters rounded through the ship. Mat. Manning, the yeoman; the ship's corporal, the gunner's mate, and other men stationed in the forward passage, rushed to it. The hatch was raised. Sitting on the ladder was the form of a female. The men were brave, nevertheless, the corporal dropped his lantern, sprung to the orlop deck, and refused to return to his station.

"Are you drunk?" said the middy, the assistant officer of the first section of the powder division.

"No, sir," replied the corporal and two of the men, "we are not. There is something down in that passage that broods no good to us."

The reer looked down, turned to the men, and asked,

"Who is that?"

The figure rose, gave them an angelic but sad look, and vanished.

That officer and the men became good Christians, and very intimate. They had many long conversations; attended church regularly. Before the year was out, one at a time departed life. The woman had appeared to them; had beckoned to come on. So said the last liver to the doctor, when his time of departure was announced as near at hand.

"She beckoned to me, I must go."

"That is so," said several of the men, some of whom had been on board of the *Columbus*. Others had been attached to the Navy-yard.

"And what became of little Clark?" asked the captain of the fore top. "I lost the run of him," replied Lovejoy. "He was a smart boy. We educated him as a lawyer, that he might some day take up his father's case, and have justice done him."

Massachusetts justice conflicts with Naval obedience of orders.

BOB STAY.

## FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE following particulars with respect to the Japanese army are supplied by the *Revue Militaire de l'Etranger*: That army, which has been reorganized with the assistance of French officers, consists now of the active army, the reserve of the active army, and the national army. The active army, which is of a peace strength of 37,000 men, to be raised during war to about 50,000, consists of sixteen infantry regiments (each of three battalions of four companies each), only three squadrons of cavalry, fourteen batteries of artillery (divided into seven sections), of which seven are mountain batteries, seven companies of engineers, besides the necessary train, ambulance, and veterinary services. The troops have three uniforms—dress, undress, and summer uniform. The infantry is armed with the Snider. The cavalry, artillery, and train carry sword and Spencer repeating carbine. The arm of the artillery consists of rifled 4 and 12-pounder muzzle-loaders (La Hitte's), and rifled 4 pounder mountain guns. The old artillery material is to be replaced by a more perfect system.

Iron says: "Of all the descriptions of gas check which have been proposed for the two-fold purpose of preventing windage and imparting rotation to the projectile, the Elswick pattern has found most favor, and it is now virtually adopted by the War Department. It entirely dispenses with pins, nuts and other modes of attachment, and is fixed to the base of the shell by a simple cup pressed over a projecting boss; this is done in a moment, and there is no waste of time in making preparations. Like most other gas checks, it is a mere disc of copper which at the moment of firing is pressed into the grooves of the rifling, thus economising the whole force of the explosion in rear of the projectile, and compelling it without the aid of studs to follow the twist of the bore."

THE increase of iron-built ships in the English merchant navy during the last seventeen years has been very remarkable. In 1860, 181 iron vessels were built—a number which rose to 503 in 1864, when a check was experienced. For nine years the number fluctuated between 300 and 480; but in the last two or three years it has passed the previous maximum, and last year 545 iron vessels were built. The increase in the size is, however, most remarkable, for while the number of the vessels built has been multiplied threefold, the tonnage is six times as great. Until 1869 the number of iron vessels lost yearly was under 100, but in that year 104 was lost. In 1874 the highest number was recorded as lost—159. There are now indications that the use of iron in shipbuilding may be in some degree superseded by steel; at several shipbuilding centres vessels have been built of steel which are now running.

A CANADIAN correspondent of the *London Times* writes: "The first attempt ever made at artillery manufacture in the Colonies is likely to be a complete success. Messrs. Gilbert and Sons, of Montreal, have commenced to make coiled wrought iron guns under Sir William Palliser's instruction and at his cost. The first barrel is nearly finished and the first gun will be fired in January. Longitudinal slices cut from some of the coils have been received in London; they show excellent workmanship in the welds, and the iron, which is Canadian, and rolled into suitable bars in Canadian shops, appears to be of first rate quality. After severe competitive trials, the United States authorities have up to the present armed their fleet and forts with heavy Palliser guns. These guns were all made by private firms in the United States. There can, therefore, be no reason why a private firm in Canada should not do the same for the Dominion; Sir William Palliser charges no royalty or commission to the Canadian government; the cost of the guns will, therefore, be less than that of any other guns now being manufactured in Europe or America. The outlying portions of the empire will be strengthened when our leading colonies learn to arm themselves by manufacturing their guns and so spending their money at home."

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "Another new gun, of American origin, has just been brought to the notice of our government by its inventor, and the first official trials have been made at Enfield. It will fire about 180 to 200 shots a minute, and can be easily handled, while its freedom from delicate mechanism makes it adapted for rough service. Unlike the Gatling, it has one barrel only, and the total weight of the arm and its rest or carriage is but eighty pounds. The method of loading and extracting the cartridge is more simple than in any other gun of its class, and the cheapness of construction of the cartridge cases make it an economical gun to use, when we consider the rate at which guns of this type expend their ammunition. Our government has been given the first opportunity of obtaining this arm for our services, and Germany is, we believe, to have the next offer."

THE *St. Petersburg Gazette* discusses the possibility of an alliance between England and Russia against China. *Broad Arrow* thinks "both might be interested in arresting the development of China by the Chinese, and nipping in the bud the genuine reorganization of the army representing the great Buddhist races, which appear to be arousing themselves from political Nirvana." As Russia is a neighbor of China she would doubtless derive the chief advantage from such an alliance. The recent operations of the Chinese in Kashgar prove, the *Economist* thinks, that the instinct of conquest still exists among them. Their *modus operandi*, observes the *Economist*, is peculiar, and is well worth study, resembling rather that of the United States than of either Russia or Great Britain. When the Court of Peking, or any of its western officers, have resolved on conquest they raise some question either of boundary or of the asylum afforded to a rebel, and urge forward an army into the desired territory.

Thenceforward, unless they are utterly defeated, in which case they will pause for years, or the army is arrested by troubles within the empire, the doom of that territory is fixed. The Chinese government now disposes in its western provinces of an army of 60,000 men, supplied with artillery, rifles, and cavalry, fed by endless streams of recruits, and directed by generals able to manage far distant expeditions. This is a formidable force, more especially as it is so perpetually renewed, and as in its slow advance it leaves behind it organized Chinese provinces occupied with a thin but rapidly increasing Chinese population. Then there is the special power of the Chinese generals. They can fill up provinces rapidly; and therefore care nothing about enemies' lives, while in filling them they completely protect their communications. This power of advance is a very formidable one, and should Chinese statesmen ever adopt a policy of conquest, might make the government of Peking a more powerful factor in the problem of Asia than this generation has been accustomed to imagine. It is very doubtful whether, if the Chinese determined to reconquer Kuldja, which was theirs, or Kokand, which in their theory is a tributary State, there is power enough in Russian Asia to prevent them; and if they conquered, it would take the whole power of Southern Russia, or of a people as numerous as those of India, and able to give life for life, to drive back the wave, and the effect might exhaust the strength of a generation. It is probable that it will not be necessary, because China can be struck at Peking, its weakest point, but its possibility suggests some curious doubts as to the future of that portion of the world and of the Chinese Empire.

"A SHETLANDER," writing in *Chambers's Journal* of 21st December, on the practice of throwing oil on waves to prevent their breaking, makes the following suggestion, which appears to deserve serious consideration: "Another case in which oil might be of the greatest service is when a man falls or is washed overboard. Lifebuoys are thrown into the sea, the ship is brought to as quickly as possible, boats are lowered, and a search made; but before all this can be done the ship has run a considerable distance, and although the poor struggler in the water may be a good swimmer, and able to keep afloat for some time, the great difficulty is to find the exact spot where he is to be sought for. A lifebuoy or a man's head is a small object to discern amongst heaving waves and white foam. If lifebuoys were so constructed as to contain a small portion of oil in a little receptacle or india rubber bag attached to them, to be punctured with a knife before being thrown overboard, the effect would be not only to prevent the sea breaking over the castaway, so making it easier for him to keep afloat, but would indicate to the searchers almost the exact spot where to look for him. His whereabouts would easily be discerned from the ship or boat by the bloom." The bloom, it may be observed, is the Shetland name for the peculiar appearance which even a very small quantity of oil will produce on the surface of the sea. In cases of extreme danger the Shetland fisherman take out the cods' livers, crush them in their hands, and throw them out to prevent the waves breaking on board and so swamping their small boats.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* Woolwich correspondent writes: "A 40-pounder breech-loading Armstrong gun, which was altered some time since by turning the trunnions so as to make the vent-piece removable horizontally at the side of the breech, instead of its having to be lifted out at the top, has been tried at Shoeburyness, and is very much liked. Orders have, therefore, been given to convert on the same principle one of the 7-in. breechloaders—the old 110 pounder—to which the system will probably be even more adapted. The only defect in the 40 pounder is an escape of gas at the breech, and this will be obviated in the 110-pounder by a seating of copper on a plan which was recently tried with a 64 pounder on the Krupp system with complete success. It may be regarded as certain that the whole of the breech-loading ordnance will ultimately undergo some similar change, and find a useful place in the service."

A DEBATE in the French Chamber shows us that the state of the French Navy is not regarded as wholly satisfactory. The estimates for the year are \$35,000,000, and a supplementary estimate will be required. The figures for the personnel are: 35,000 sailors, 35,000 workmen, and 25,000 soldiers; for 1,800 naval officers, 3,000 functionaries. According to M. Lamy the fleet seems to be a mere accessory to the land administration. The buildings, he says, are worth 420,000,000 francs; the stores, 270,000,000; the machinery, 154,000,000; total, 800,000,000 francs. The fleet is only worth half that sum. In England just the contrary is the case. For many a long year to come other maritime powers, said Admiral Pothuau, will have in their squadrons vessels with plates of 13, 15, or 18 centimetres, like the *Warrior*, the *Black Prince*, the *Defence*, the *Frederick Charles*, the *Castel Fédaro*, the *Venezier*, etc. In 1885 the French fleet cut off sixteen 1st class ironclads will only have three with 15 centimetre plates; the other thirteen will have plates of 20, 35, 38, or 55 centimetres. Including the *Caiman* of the Coast Guard type, there are now seven vessels with 55 centimetre plates. It will be the same with the other classes composing the French fleet. In order to complete the programme of 1872 there remain to be built three 2d class ironclads, four Coast Guards, twenty gunboats, and four transports. Admiral Pothuau spoke in the highest terms of the performance of the last ironclads launched—of the *Duquesne*, the *Touville*, and the *Redoubtable*—and pronounced the latter vessel the fastest ironclad afloat.

THE results of the recent trials of the *Inflexible* on the measured mile at Stokes Bay must be most satisfactory and gratifying, says *Broad Arrow*, to all who have been concerned with the construction of that formidable

vessel, and, indeed, to the country at large. It is not often that bold departures from generally pursued practices are crowned with such success as in this instance. To obtain a speed of 14½ knots per hour from a vessel 334 ft. long, 75 ft. wide, and displacing about 9,500 tons on a mean draught of 20 ft. 11 in., and with a developed engine power of rather less than 8,500 horses, is a performance which a few years ago would have been declared absolutely impossible. The somewhat paradoxical discovery that by increasing the breadth of the *Inflexible* from 75 ft. to 102 ft., her resistance at a speed of fourteen knots would be reduced from 35.2 tons to 33.1 tons, while at 13 knots it was increased from 21 tons to 21.8 tons, is fully borne out by all which has yet been ascertained after following out the advice offered by Mr. Froude. There were many reasons for desiring to have a beam of seventy-five feet in the *Inflexible*, but in the absence of such encouraging assurances respecting the speed results which would follow, as Mr. Froude was enabled to afford their Lordships, we do not believe that proportions of so abnormal and unusual a character would have been adopted. The result of the *Inflexible's* trials fully confirm all that the constructors had been led to expect by Mr. Froude's reports. It would be difficult to over estimate the value to the naval service, and, therefore, to the country at large, of Mr. Froude's labors in this direction.

The *Naval and Military Gazette* says: An interesting experiment at Shoeburyness was made last week. It has been found that charged shells when fired against armor plating are uncertain in their effect, sometimes exploding on impact without penetrating, at others penetrating without exploding, and lastly, partially penetrating and exploding, one portion remaining imbedded in the plate, while the fragments of the other are blown back with such force as on one occasion to actually dismount the gun from which the shell had been fired. Since then it has been the practice to use uncharged shells as affording a result far more certain and disastrous. The object of the present experiment seems to have been to test an ingenious contrivance which should give the shell time to penetrate before the explosion takes place. In what that arrangement consists we are not at liberty to state, but the experiment was considered a most successful one. A kind of square box was built up by means of four iron test plates, each measuring four feet square by one foot in thickness, while a fifth plate of similar dimensions formed the cover, the sides having strong abutments of timber.

This box was lined with sand bags, and in the centre of these was deposited an ordinary service shell, charged with a little over three pounds of gun cotton. The new apparatus having been placed in position and electrical connection established, the box was closed in, all present retired under cover, the bugle sounded, the circuit was completed, and the charge instantaneously fired. There were two detonations, a minor and a louder one, the time separating the two being five seconds. On issuing from cover, it was found that the strongly-built fabric was utterly demolished. The result had been a complete success. The experiment was performed in the presence of the Commandant, Colonel Hastings; Colonel Fraser, Director of the Royal Laboratory, Woolwich; Colonel Sykes, Major Lambert, Captain Jones, Mr. Forest, and other members of the committee.

**GELATINE DYNAMITE.**—Nobel discovered that a comparatively small quantity, 6 or 8 per cent. of a nitrated cellulose, prepared from cotton in a peculiar manner, has the property of transforming liquid nitro-glycerine, the employment of which as such is, of course, extremely dangerous, into a gelatinous mass highly suitable as an explosive, which, even under very high pressures, does not disengage any nitro-glycerine, does not alter its character in water, and possesses twice the destructive force of dynamite No. 1. As this new material is only some 50 or 60 per cent. more costly than dynamite No. 1, its wide application may be considered probable. This material, known from its peculiar appearance, as gelatinised dynamite, possesses the property of becoming greatly reduced in its explosive force by the addition of certain substances, until it cannot be exploded even under the action of rifle balls fired from a distance of 25 yards, so that it may be employed even as charges for heavy guns and torpedoes without the danger of explosion from any adjacent mine. In that it appears to combine all the advantages of compressed gun-cotton as a war material, without its drawbacks. Experiments with it have been made under the superintendence of Captain P. Hess, of the Royal and Imperial Ministry of War, and of M. J. Trautz, which left no doubt that in a very short time in Austria, where the direction of military affairs is specially interested in this matter, this explosive will be largely used for military purposes. Gelatine dynamite is composed of:

Nitro-glycerine .....	86.40
Soluble gun-cotton .....	9.60
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100

The specific gravity of this material is 1.6. Its chief qualities, especially those which render it superior to normal dynamite, are the following: 1. It may be preserved intact for an indefinite time beneath the water. 2. It never gives off its nitro-glycerine, even under extreme pressure. 3. It is unaffected by violent shocks or vibrations, and even by explosions which may occur close beside it. 4. It is not affected dangerously by fire, but burns quietly, and without any explosion.—*Engineering*.

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MORGAN—PRINCE.—January 9th, 1879, at St. Mary's Church, St. Paul, Minnesota, by the Rev. L. Caillat, Bvt. Brig. General M. R. MORGAN, U. S. Army, to MARIE ANTOINETTE, second daughter of John S. Prince, of St. Paul.

**DIED.**

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

KING.—At Avoca Plantation, Louisiana, on the morning of January 11th, ADELAIDE PATTON, aged five years, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Charles King, 5th Cavalry, and Adelaide L. Yorke, his wife.

WINCH.—At Greeley, Colorado, January 8, 1879, of consumption, Midshipman T. G. WINCH, U. S. Navy, aged 24 years. Remains removed to his home, Cleveland, O., for interment.

RAYMOND.—At West Point, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1879, suddenly, of scarlet fever, CHARLES PRATT RAYMOND, aged 5 years and 5 months, son of Capt. Chas. W. Raymond, Corps of Engineers.

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claims, endowments, distributions  
of surplus, etc.....2,437,100.36  
Total cash assets, as per Insurance  
Commissioner's report.....14,466,920.53  
Total surplus, do. do. do. 1,621,078.63

This Company insures the lives of Officers of  
the Army and Navy without extra premium,  
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extra risk will not invalidate the policy, but will  
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New Policies issued, 1,571. Terminated, 1,665.

The Directors' Annual Report, containing a  
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### What our Army Patrons Say.

Camp Halleck, Nev., October 7, 1878.

E. D. BASSFORD, Esq., New York City.

SIR: The goods you shipped to us here were  
received some days ago, and in most excellent  
order; not an article as much as bent. The order  
was filled to the satisfaction of each officer  
of the mess, and all are much pleased with your  
selection of the goods. Very respectfully,  
CHAS. C. CRESSON,  
Lieut. 1st Cavalry U. S. Army.

Camp McDermitt, Nev., Nov. 8, 1878.

E. D. BASSFORD, Esq., New York City.

DEAR SIR: The cask of crockery shipped  
Sept. 25th reached me to-day. The articles are  
perfectly satisfactory in every respect, and  
checked out all right with the bill; and not one  
piece broken or "nicked" in the slightest de-  
gree. Very respectfully,  
A. W. CORLISS,  
Capt. 8th Inf.

Camp Halleck, Nev., July 13, 1878.

F. D. BASSFORD, Esq.

DEAR SIR: The company mess kit arrived  
here in excellent condition, and gives perfect  
satisfaction in every respect.  
I remain yours very truly,  
W. ALLEN,  
Lieut. 12th Inf. Commanding Co. II.

Fort Clark, Texas, Nov. 11, 1877.

E. D. BASSFORD, Esq.

DEAR SIR: I enclose please find P. O. order  
for amount of my order No. 29th. The goods  
have been all this time on the road, and although  
the cask bears marks of very rough usage, yet  
not a single article was cracked or damaged in  
the least. We could not be better pleased, and  
we shall certainly recommend your house to all  
of our friends.  
GEORGE E. POND,  
2d Lieut. 8th Cav. U. S. A.

Old Point Comfort, Va., Sept. 7th, 1878.

Mr. E. D. BASSFORD, New York City.

MY DEAR SIR: I enclose money order for  
payment of my bill. The articles were received  
in good order.  
Very truly,  
PETER LEARY, Jr.,  
1st Lieut. 4th Cavalry.

Fort Garland, Col., July 25.

EDWARD D. BASSFORD, Cooper Institute, N. Y.

Enclosed please find P. O. order for the  
amount due you for china and silver ware, etc.  
Am pleased with them all.  
Yours with respect. (Mrs.) B. S. HUMPHRY.

E. D. BASSFORD, N. Y.

SIR: Herewith please find my check for  
amount of goods, sent May 16th, to Col. J. P.  
Willard, Santa Fe, New Mexico. The cask ar-  
rived 11th June. Not a single article cracked,  
chipped or broken.  
Respectfully,  
(Mrs.) L. P. WILLARD.

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